# A HISTORY OF SAINT BENEDICT'S CHURCH TERRE HAUTE, INDIANA

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by Octavie B. Gunneson March, 1970

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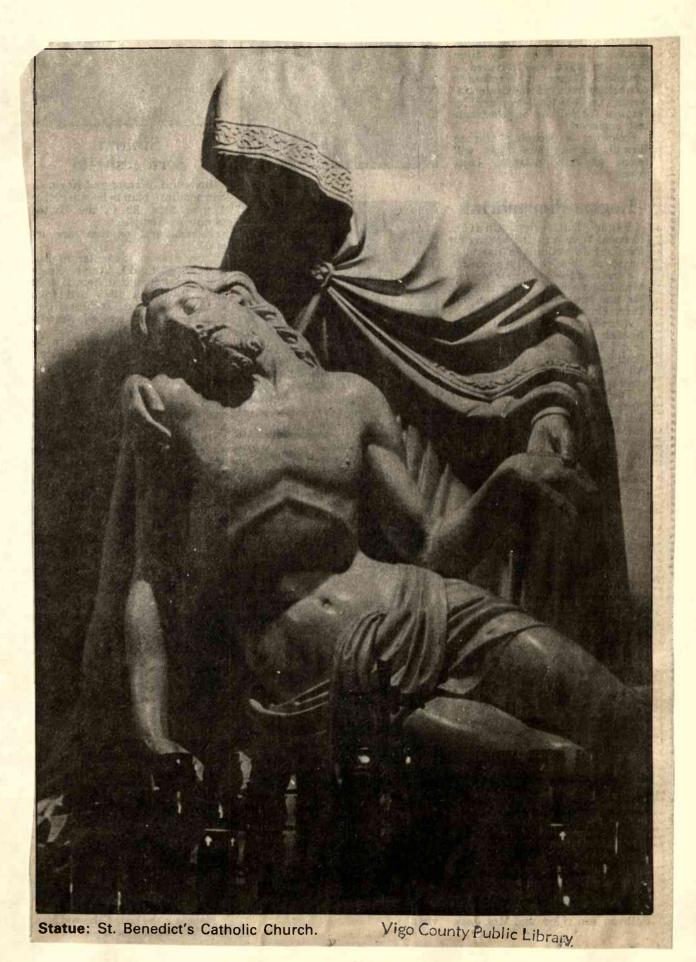
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TERRE HAUTE, INDIANA

By DOROTHY J. CLARK

Sixty years ago a small 82-page book was printed entitled, "Directory of St. Benedict's Church—1900," compiled by Rev. B. Zoller. At that time the Board of Trustees was composed of Herman Hulman Sr., John Marien, Peter Doerner, John Scheidel and Charles A. Lang. Rev. Father Bonaventure Zoller was the rector, and his assistant was Rev. Father Edmund Kaiser.

The directory contains an alphabetical list of the church members of 1900, and their addresses,

showing how the parish had grown from the original 13 families.

All the marriages performed at St. Benedict's since 1885 were recorded. During that year the following marriages were performed: Jan. 14, Harland A. Pritchett and Anna M. Breinig; May 14, Francis Vonscher and Margaret Stulp; June 16, Albert Dede and Mary Rotz; Sept. 22, Bernard Hehring and Molly Terhorst; Oct. 13, Theodore Trierweiler and Elizabeth Riede; Oct. 15, Willibald Schroff and Amalia Fried; Nov. 24, Bernard Otten and Mary Roth.

In the record of deceased members listed since 1885, the first



Rev. Father Zoller com-piled an his-

torical sketch of St. Bene-dict's Church. In January, 1864, a small

death record-

ed in that year

was that of

Mrs. Mary

Dede on Feb.

17th.

Dorothy J. Clark

group of German Catholics called and held three meetings for the purpose of discussing the building of a church of their own. They had previously been attending St. Joseph's Church on South Fifth street.

At the third meeting, Rev. Fintan Mundwiler, who was presiding, agreed to purchase the piece of property at the southeast corner of Ninth and Ohio streets, the present site of the church. For this purpose St. Boniface's Building Society was organized on October 2, 1864, the corner stone was laid, and early in the next year, February 1865, the church was completed and formally dedicated.

St. Benedict's parish was formed and the first church erected by the Benedictine fathers. Revs. Casper Doebbener, Edward Faller and N. Gaell-weiler were the pastors during their control. Rev. Pius Kotterer was the first of the Franciscan fathers who took charge in 1872 and administered the church and

During the administration of Rev. Zoller from 1886 to 1889 the school house was built at the northeast corner of Ninth and Walnut streets at a cost of \$26,000.00. The cornerstone was laid June 12th, 1887. The building committee was composed of Herman Hulman, Frank Prox, John F. Brinkman and Joseph Frisz. Under the direction of the Sisters of Providence, the children received instruction in both the English and German languages.

On Dec. 3, 1895, Rev. Peter Scharoun called a meeting to discuss a new church. In addition to the above named men Earnest Bleemel, John Dommershausen, Anthony Haring and August Fox served on the building committee.

### Neighboring Churches Inspected.

A committee of three men was appointed to visit and inspect a number of churches in the large neighboring cities. On March 31, 1896, it was definitely decided to erect a new church with two front towers and a cupola over A Chicago archithe transent. tect, A. Druiding, was engaged.

On April 27 the work of tearing down the old church was begun. During the erection of the building church services were held in the school hall. On June 10, 1896, all the plans and drawings for the new church were received and on June 25, bids were received and contracts

awarded.

The following month on July 21st, ground was broken and three months afterward on Oct. 4, the corner stone was laid with grand ceremonies and in the presence of thousands of people. The church was finished March 12,

Three new bells, weighing 1,027 lbs., 1,822 lbs., and 3,559 lbs., totalling 6,408 lbs., were blessed on Nov. 6, 1898, sixty-two years ago today.

#### Dedicated in 1899.

St. Benedict's new church, costing over \$150,000, was formally dedicated June 18, 1899. Statisticwise: The red pressed brick was furnished by Findly Company of Ohio; the brown-stone came from Michigan; the general contractor was from Columbus, Ind.; a Chicago firm did all the stone work; Chas. W. Abbott of Terre Haute did all the brick work; Jacob Bennett & Sons of this city furnished the common brick.

One of Europe's greatest sculptors, Mr. Schmieman of Muenster, Westphalia, was responsible for the statuary. The stained glass windows were done by the famous artist Victor Vounder-

The great painting over the high altar "Salus-Mundi," one of the outstanding attractions of the church, was done by the artist To. Zukotynski, a Russian nobleman, then living in Chicago.

In 1900 the church organist was Miss Anna Hulman. The choir consisted of Misses: Mary Orth, Tillie Heppner, Anna Niemeyer, Adelia Orth, Anna Breitfelder, Susie Kennedy, Clara Oeser, Lillie Schulmeyer and Lulu Stiegelbauer, all sopranos; Misses Mary Dirolf, Burgie Klug and Bertha Orth as altos; John Unison, Chas. Miller and Mathias Feiler as tenors, and the basses: Geo. Klug, Frank Fehrenbach, Joseph Schultz, Wm. Katzenbach and Joseph Lang.

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Imported from Abroad.

The large candelabras and can-

dle-sticks were imported from Russia and Germany. The con-crete walks around the church were laid by F. Giebel. "Viewed as a whole, St. Benedict's church especially its interior, has almost a bewildering effect upon it be-holder; such beauty of symmetry and proportion is displayed

everywhere ...

"The citizens of the Prairie City can proudly assert that it contains the handsomest and most complete church edifice not only in Indiana but in the entire west."

Some of the advertisers who took space in this little church directory were: The Prox & Brinkman Mfg. Co.; Pixley & Co.

who sold men's clothing; Dr. Odell Weaver, 6001/2 Wabash avenue; American Laundry and Dyeing Co., corner Second and Wabash; The Reese, Snider Lumber Co., 539 North Seventh street; W. F. Hertfelder, North-west corner Fourth and Cherry. fancy grocer; O'Neill & Walsh. 420 Wabash, shoestore; Ben Kiewit, tailor; Henry W. Katzenbach, undertaker; Arthur Baur, druggist; Breinig & Miller, Co., 416-418 Wabash avenue, furni-ture dealers; Dr. J. H. Cheek, dentist, over Tune Bros.; Jas. A. Nisbet, undertaker; Reiman & Steeg Co., Ninth and Main streets; Moudy & Coffin, contractors, and Shultz & Mussel, Union Depot Hotel, southeast corner of Ninth and Sycamore streets.

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# SAINT BENEDICT'S CHURCH

by

## A. R. Markle

The Catholic Church in Terre Haute started in a very modest way. A circuit in this vicinity was served by Father Simon Buteux with stations at North Arm which was west of Clinton, St. Mary's at Paris, Illinois, and Thralls Station which land eventually became the property of the Sisters of Providence, and Terre Haute.

There were many Irish laborers working on the canal; they were visited by Father Laluadere, a Joseft missionary, who was shot at the disorder of the men along the canal north of here. He organized many St.

Natthew Societies and these became the greater part of the new congregation which he served at St. Joseph's Church more than 100 years ago.

or many years the only Catholic Church in Terre Haute was

St. Josephs. The Germans at ended this Church when the services were

conducted in German. The fact that they felt they were outsiders in

the Church of so many different nationalities caused the banding

together of the Germans of the city for the purpose of finding some way

in which they could have their own place of worship.

On January 17, 1864, the German Catholics of Terro Haute, in compliance with the estre and invitation of Father Martin Harty assembled for the purpose of discussing the feasibility of the building of the Church.

There were thirteen gent emen who heeded the invitation, and they resolved that each man present would exert homself to bring others to the cause.



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A committee was formed with Herman Hulman at the head to consult with carpenters as to the cost of a small church.

The next meet ng was held January 31, 1864, with an increase of our members. At this meeting several plots of ground were proposed, but having insufficient information and funds, nothing definite was decided. Then the Germans started a drive for funds, and everyone who has more at all, or who could pledge to give at a later date, was urged to contribute. The chief contributors, though, ere Herman and Theology Hulman.

On the seventh day of February in 1864 another meeting was held with the Revorend Father Fintan Mundwiler presiding. At this meeting arrangements were made to purchase a piece of property located on the noutheast corner of Ninth an Chio Streets, extending from Ninth Street to the Canal. On this piece of land they laid the foundation of St. Benedict's Church.

St. Boniface's Building Society was organized June 5, 1864, and this society took great interest in so important a matter. On October 2, 1864, on the feast of the Holy Rosary, the corner stone for St. Benedict's Church was laid, in which was placed a nickel piece of the date 1862, a picture of St. Benedict, and a document concerning the Church, all enclosed in a tin fruit can and sealed with wax. On February 4, 1865, the ediface was formally dedicated to the services of God.

Thus were the good Germans rewarded for their efforts and energy.

They sid not mind that the Church was very small and unpretentious, but they were grateful merely to have a place in which they could all worship together. Shortly after the opening of the Church, a rectory and school were built on the grounds, and they were rewarded further for their diligence.

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Reverend Edward Fuller was pastor of St. Benedict's Church until 1872. He was followed by Rev. Pious Kotterer who served the parish until 1878. The next three pastors were Rev. Maurice Bierl, Rev. Conrad Elison, and Rev. Clemens Luitz. The latter priest was pastor from 1881 until 1884. Hev. Evelin Szabo was the next pastor. He was follower by Rev. Beneventure Zoller who was pastor until 1889 when Rev. Leonard Reich became pastor. Rev. P. W. Scharoun came to St. Benedict's Church in 1891 and served as faster until 1898 when Rev. Zoller returned and was absisted by Rev. Edmand Keiser.



The above was made from the architect's drawings of the proposed new St. Benedict's church, a full description of thich was given in The Gazette on April 18th. It will be the most expensive church in the city, and will cost, when cometod, not far from \$100,000.

At the present time a backward glance at the history of this prosperous church is of special interest.

Its foundation dates back thirty-two years ago when Rev. P. Fintan Mundwiler, O. S. B., past Abbott of St. Meinrad, sving charge of the Catholics in this city and residing with other Benedictine Fathers at St. Joseph's church, on June 5th, 864, organized the German Catholic families, 13 in number, to build a church, parsonage and school house. The church was called St. Benedict's church and was dedicated February 3rd, 1865. The corner stone had been laid on the second day of October of 1864. Rev. Casper Doebbener was the first pastor, his service extending from December, 1865 to February, 1867. In April, 1867 the Rev. Edward Faller took charge. He, having means of his own, spent much money on the church property. His successor was the Rev. Nallweiler from March 1871, until February, 1872. From this time the Fathers O. M. C have had charge. They have been as follows:

Rev. Pins Kotterer, from March 1872 to October 1877. He enlarged both the church and the school-not the present fine school structure, but a frame, which then stood east of the church.

Rev. Conrad Elison, from October, 1877, till January, 1880, when his failing health compelled him to resign.

Rev. Clement Luitz then assumed charge and served to July, 1880.

Kev. Mauritius Bierl, December, 1883, to April 1885. Rev. Avelinus Szabo, April 1885 to November, 1886.

Rev. Bonaventure Zoller, November 1886 to January 1889.

Rev. Leonard Reich, February 1889 to November 19, 1892.

On Nov. 18th, 1892 Rev Father Peter W. Scharoun, the present rector arrived in Terre Haute and took charge of the congregation on the 20th of the month. He is both a broad minded man and a scholar, and is much beloved by his congregation and friends outside of the church. His past history has been remarkable on account of his success in the raising of funds and building of churches. This experience was of valuable assistance to the members of the building committee when the plans for the new church in this city were being considered. Father Schar-

oun is a practical man and when he finds a leisure half hour desights in working about his home or the church grounds.

He was born of German parents in the city of Syracuse, N. Y., June 21, 1854. Having received a rudimentary education in the parochial school of the Assumption, he was sent to St. Frances College, Brooklyn, N. Y., there to receive instruction

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in the higher sciences. Being of a studious and a strong mind, his feaching qualifications were scon apparent to those under whose charge he had been placed, hence at the age of 17 he was intrusted with the instruction of the Second Academic class. After having taught for a few years in parochial schools he was appointed principal of St. Ann's school and the folowing year principal of one of the largest schools at that time in Brooklyn. In both schools his work was excellent and

Subsequently he removed to Kingston where he accepted a position in the District school No. 3 under the Board of Edution. After having now devoted nine years of his life in instructing the youth he joined the Franciscan Fathers, O. M.

., in Syracuse, N. Y., on the 6th of March, 1878. Having finished his courset here and at the Franciscan seminary in Trenton, N. J., he was ordained priest of the latter

Ace by the Rt. Rev. Bishop O'Farrell, Feb. 17, 1883.

His first mission was at Beverly, N. J., which he attended until Nov. 1, 1883, and was then transferred to Camden, N. J., as assistant rector, in which capacity he remained for three years, when he was assigned to Trenton, N. J., to take charge of St. Peter's church, Riverside, N. J.

Charge of St. Peter's church, Riverside, N. J.

Having successfully discharged the duties as rector for nearly three years, he was appointed, Nov. 17, 1889, rector of SS.

Peter and Paul's church, Camden. Through his untiring zeal and energy he succeeded in raising funds to complete the new church edifice which was then in course of erection. The following year, Dec. 7, 1890, he had the pleasure of having the new church dedicated. It is a very imposing structure with massive tower and is considered the finest in the city.

Not relenting in his zeal, he established a mission at Pavonia, N. J.

The new church is modelled after one of the finest churches in Chicago and will make an edifice of great beauty. There

are few churches in this country on this style of architecture; but in Europe many cathedrals are seen with both dome and towers. Architect Druiding, of Chicago, is the architect and the building committee is composed of Messrs. H. Hulman, Joseph Frisz and A. Herring. The last mass in the old church was observed Tuesday morning, and services will now be held in the school hall at Ninth and Walnut streets.

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# ST. BENEDICT'S CHURCH

Through zealous efforts and, in some cases, considerable sacrifices on the part of many of the members of the congregation, the first St. Benedict's Church was built. The Hulman families contributed largely of both their time, efforts and finances to aid in its completion. This project was accomplished through the united efforts of the entire membership, whose labors of love and devotion accomplished not only the Church, itself, but a short time later, a personage and school.

The need for larger quarters for the school soon became apparent and plans for the construction of a larger building were laid. The ladies of the church held bazaars, dinners, fairs and benefits of all kinds to aid in the raising of funds, while the men added their efforts in every way possible. Herman Hulman gave a fine cutter sleigh to the members to be raffled off and the proceeds were added to the growing fund. He made substantial financial contributions, but as he was always very careful not to over-burden people with the knowledge of his ability to give or to make his giving seem pretentious, he found many other ways to help in gaining the same goal.

The new school, blocated on the corner of Ninth and Walnut Streets, became a reality and it was considered by many to be the most progressive and attractive institution in this section of the country. The congregation knew the joy of accomplishment through their own efforts, for they had worked mightily to see the project carried through. With this kind of cooperation and diligence, the church and school prospered and grew throughout the years.

The need for a larger Church had long been apparent, and despite the fact that all members of the congregation proffessed their willingness to subscribe liberally to any project in that direction, universal hard times forced a post-ponements of any definite action until the economical outlook became more encouraging.

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This enforced postponement did not discourage the leaders of the different organizations connected with he church and they were encouraged in all possible ways by their pastor, Father Sharoun, and Herman Hulman to maintain this attitude. As a result of this encouragement, plans for a gigantic, week-long fair were made. The profits from this benefit were to be set aside as a building fund so that when the time came for work to actually begin, there would be some kind of financial backing for it. The fair opened on November 4, 1895 and proved to be the first of several that proved the old saying that "anyone who is anyone must certainly be present". Widespread advertising and the contagious spirit of good fellowship shown by all connected with the project made all who attended feel that their time and money had been well spent. Much favorable comment he sulted from this fete and even the general public became enthusiastic about the plans for the future of St. Benedict's congregation.

With the good-will created by the whole affair, the profits from it were encouraging. A net profit of \$4,050.93 proved a very substantial foundation upon which to build their dreams of accomplishment.

Father Sharoun was a man who was size beyond the average, and he spent many hours in thought and prayer before deciding that the time to begin such a huge undertaking had arrived. In consequence, he called a meeting for December 3, 1895, to be composed of prominent laymentin the congregation. Herman Hulman, Sr., Franz (Frank) Prox, John F. Brinkman, Joseph Frisz, Sr., Ernest Bleemel, John Dommerschausen, Anton Haring and August Fuchs were chosen as being representative men, not only aff the members of St. Benedict's, but of the community as well.

This meeting was called by Father Sharoun for the purpose of announcing his decision and to hear the reaction of the people. He had not counted on the enthusiasm evinced by the men he had chosen, for it was at this meeting that they and chose Herman as temporary chairman. Father Sharoun as temporary secretary. They unanimously agreed that there was no time like the present to begin any task and thereby elected themselves as members of what they called "The Building Committee

of St. Benedict's New Church." They discussed the location of the new church and decided that it should be located at the southeast corner of Ninth and Ohio streets, facing Ninth. The style of architecture was thoroughly discussed and was finally narrowed down to either Gothic or Romanesque. Both styles would be beautiful, but it was decided that the Romanesque style offered a greater scope for deviation. The committee elected Rather Sharoup, Herman Hulman and Anton Haring a committee of three to visit and inspect churches in different localities.

Fired as they were, with the need for immediate action, they were all anxious for the work to progress rapidly. Their disappointment was very effident, therefore, when Father Sharoun became seriously ill and was placed under the care of a physician. The pastor's health forbade any further meetings until March 16, when they met at his home.

In spite of the long delay, their fervor had not diminished, and they elected the following permanent officers who were commissioned to serve for the entire period of construction: Herman Hulman, president; Joseph Frisz, vice president; Father Sharoun, secretary; and John F. Brinkman, treasurer. It was at this having the committee of three meeting that the advisability of/visity// Quincy, and Chicago, Illinois, to inspect was discussed. They were to churches/gather information as to cost, style of architecture, and names of the architects, and submit their findings to the committee before any definite steps were taken in the way of submission of plans to any one.

Acting upon the pleasure of the committee, the three men, Herman Hulman,
Anton Haring and Joseph Frisz, who had replaced Father Sharoun, existed several
churches in Quincy, but saw none that they felt would be suitable for their needs.
In Chicago, they visited many churches which ranged widely in style of architecture
and cost, and at last decided that St. George's Church was the style they had been
searching for. A church similar to it could, with some modifications, alterations,
and Herman incur
additions, and ommissions, be suitable for St. Benedict's congregation/// They
of the pastor the name of the architect
decided to go on looking, but the next church they inspected proved to have been

planned by the same man, //They Adolphus Druiding. They called on Mr. Druiding and discussed their problem with him. He listened to all they had to say, and asked questions here and there to draw themself out so that he might have a flure comprehensive picture of what they were planning. His intelligent and understanding attention impressed the committee favorably and when he offered to draw sketches and perspectives for the proposed new church, they agreed that he should do so.

Messrs. Haring and Frisz returned to Terre Haute to arrange for a meeting of the building committee, leaving Herman, whose knowledge of their requirements and deep concern in the matter of procuring the proper plans for their purpose made him the one best fitted to carry on further discussions with the architect. Herman, in his travels through Europe, had kept in mind through the years the eventual need of a new church building. Wherever he went he visited the churches making notes, comparing advantages, and building in his mind, the basic features that would make such a building suitable for the congregation of St. Benedict's, and at the same time would be a thing of beauty to which his beloved city could point with pride.

The day after the rest of the committee left Chicago, Herman and Mr. Druiding visited the same two churches that had so impressed the three men. After a thorough investigation, during which Herman discussed his objections to some of the details in the plans, the ommission of others, alsterations, and additions, he knew that Mr. Druiding was the man who should be given the job of drawing the plans and specifications for them and commissioned him to do so. He was to submit the plans to the entire building committee for final approvals a the earliest possible moment.

Adolphus Druiding was born April 28, 1838, the sone of a German physician. Dr. Druiding was determined that his youngest son would receive the most liberal education possible and started him to school at a very early age. As a young men he became a student in the Polytechnic School at Munich, where he became an outstanding mathemeatician, graduating with the highest honors the school could

After his graduation, he entered the government service, during which time he designed and erected several buildings in Arnheim, which proved that he was a master in the architectural field. He came to America to broaden his feild and many that the second building to the building committee, at which time he gave a report of his discussions with the architect. The men listened with great interest to all the points of the report and concurred in all of Herman's decisions. Father Sharoun was appeared to consults with Bishop Chatard

On May 18, 1896, the Bishop endorse the congregation's plans as follows: "I have this day seen the minutes of St. Benedict's new church to date, including the building account of receipts and expenditures, and hereby approve them and express my satisfaction at the excellent manner in which they are kept".

concerning the erection of the proposed new church. Over

While waiting for the plans and specifications to be drawn, Herman was not idle. He continued his visits to churches throughout the country, noting every feature that appealed to him as appropriate. He made several trips to Chicago to discuss changes and ideas with the architect, who incorporated many of Herman's into the plans.

The building committee was called to a meeting/on/March 31, at ten d'clock to examine the plans and specifications submitted by Mr. Druiding, who came to Terre Haute to present them in person. There was a lengthy discussion about the plans, with many alterations suggested. The former decision of the committee to have the Romanesque style as a basis for the design was again made and the addition of two cupola over the nave and transept was finally agreed upon.

Changes in regard to the exterior construction and ornamentation, some radical the architect interior alterations, and some ommissions, were discussed with Mr. Druiding and he agreed to incorporate these changes into another set of plans, which he would submit to the committee in two weeks.

In accordance with his agreement, he submitted his altered plans to the com-

mittee, which Herman, as president, had called especially for that purpose. The men were impressed with the new plans and Mr. Druiding agreed to leave them with the committee for several days for further inspection of deaters. Father Scharoun desired an opportunity to show them to Bishop Chatard, who, by now, was very much interested in the project and thoroughly enjoyed having a part in the details of its completion.

On April 26, Father Scharoun called a meeting of the entire male membership of the congregation tt advise them of the formal acceptance of the plans and to open a subscription list. Everyone was pleased with the decision of the building committee and every person present wee pleased to sign his name to the subscription. The membership was also informed that Bishop Chatard had given formal consent to the erection of the church, and Hermen reported his latest visit to the architect and their discission concerning the changes to be made in the large dome and the transept. The members voted to sent him to Mr. Prox to discuss the feasibility of covering the dome and towers with copper and of inserting art stained glass windows throughout the building.

previous to this date, bids had been called for on the demolition of the old building. At this meeting all bids were opened and Anton Haring and Michael Kennedy, acting together, were the lowest bidders at \$500.00. They were instructed to begin work the next day, with the understanding that all furnishings and material was to remain the property of the congregation.

According to instructions, demolition began on April 27. On May 6, the cornerstone of the old church was found in the northwest corner of the foundation. When the contents of the stone were examined, it was found that they were in very poor condition. The coins and the picture of St. Benedict were in fair shape, but the documents were in shreds and pieces and rust and dampness had made the writing illegible. The work of demolishing the old building was finished on this day and Mr. Haring was commissioned to move the sexton's house to the vacant lot across Ninth and one-half Steet.

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With the removal of the sexton's house, the lot wasready for excavation and construction. The building committee joined the rest of the congregation in a period of, more or less patient, waiting for work that work would be started. Herman was a sanxious as the rest of his friends, but his policy of caution advancement stod him in good stead during the waiting period. Her, more than anyone else, could appreceiate the importance of perfection in each detail, however minute. His experience had taught him long before that any successful undertaking depended entirely upon attention to those same details.

June 12, seemed a long time to wait for the next meeting, bat on that date, Herman called a special meeting to inform the building committee that on June 10 he had received all plans, details, and specifications from the architect. They inspected the plans thoroughly and formally accepted them. They voted to place one set in the room on the south side of the school building on the second floor. This location was chosen because it would be convenient for any contractors/who wished to bid on the construction.

The committee who had visited other cities, and all who had made trips in connection with the new church, most of them at their own expense, were given a vote of thanks by the remainder of the committee, with special thanks going to Herman for his untiring efforts and unflagging interest throughout the negotiation period. A meeting, scheduled for June 25, was held with Mr. Druiding in attendance, for the purpose of opening the bids received. The bids had been from all sections, but the firm of P. H. McCormack and Company, of Columbus, Indiana, was awarded the contract on the strength of a \$62.000 bid. It covered the construction of the building, the furnishing of all labor, materials (except for the common brick), tile for the aisles, and flooring, all according to specifications.

It was at this meeting that Mr. Brinkman resigned as treasurer and as a member of the building committee. Joseph Frisz was chosen to fill the vacancy on both the committee and as sreasurer. He was instructed to deposit the money

belonging to the building committee in the McKeen Bank.

Mr. McCormack was in the city and was invited to appear before the committee to receive their formal acceptance of his bid. He thanked them and offered, immediately, to post a \$50,000 bond, which was accepted. He also agreed to have the church completed by September 1, 1897.

The committee arranged a meeting on July 6th, at which both the architect and contractor were present. Together they went over all the details so that each would have a definite understanding of the other's aims and viewpoint. It was just as well, for it was found the Mr. McCormack had figured on only one section of ornamental plastering, and a discussion was held on the feasibility of constructing large rose windows in the transept similar to the one called for at the front of the church, but no definite decision was made. Mr. Mc Cormack agreed to start work on July 15.

Mr. McCormack was requested to name a figure for which he would sell the cut stone contract, and with his promise to have an estimate for the following day, the meeting adjourned.

The next day, July 7, the meeting resulted in several important decisions being made. The cut stone contract was sold/back to the committee for "12,681, which left Mr. McCormack's contract in the amount of \$50,019. It was decided that all granite columns inside the building would be made of New Maine stone and that all those specified for the outside would be of the very best dark grey new Main granite with all of them designed to suit Herman.

Mr. Druiding offered to furnish the corner stone and the design and drawings for the carving. Tr. Mcormack offered to cut, carve, and set the stone, both offerings made free of charge.

On July 22, the cut stone contract, signed by the building committee, was let to E. J. Edwards of Chicago, for \$11,700, and an additional contract in the amount of \$3,155 was leton August 5.

Mr. Druiding commissioned W. H. Nouss'as his representative in charge of

relative matters concerning the plans and details of the work, and he was to remain in Terre Haute to be near in case his advice was needed.

Mr. McCormack sub-let some of the contracts for the work to various companies. The Stone work was let to Edwards & Ward, of Chicago, Charles W. Abbott, of Terre Haute received the contract for the brickwork, and was to furnish both pressed and common brick. Jacob Bennett and Sons, of Terre Haute, also furnished brick in the amount of 1,500,000 bricks, and Max Jennings of Logansport, Indiana, furnished the copper and slate roofing.

With complete agreement and understanding accomplished between archictect, contractor, and building committee, the first step in the construction work could be taken. It was an important setp in the the life of the parish, for much in it the way of prayer, thought, time, and money had been expended to bring/about.

On July 21, the ground was broken, the first earth being removed by Father

Scharoun, from the spot over which the High Altar was to be placed. Mr. Nouss on August 6,

and Mr. McCormack presented to the building committee the need of extra excavation, with additional concrete and stone work for six large piers. The added expense would be \$354.15, but the committee agreed that is would be better if the addition was made.

On this date the workers began laying the concrete foundation. Herman threw the first shovel full and was followed by Father Scharour with the second one.

After the lotter, eighteen inches deep, had be layed, Father Scharoun, aided by Herman Hulman, set the first stone on the northeast cornr of the foundation. The stones were laid by means of a derrick, and while Herman held the stone steady, Father Scharoun guided it into place. Only four days had elapsed since they had started the laying of the concrete, and the building committee felt a fast, workmanlike job was being done.

Herman, as president of the building committee, watched every phase of the work closely. The members of the congregation watcher his supervision with a

mixture of genuine pride and affectionate amusement, and the remark was often made that "if just one brick, tool, stone or board were moved between sunset and dawn", Herman knew of it and inquired into the reason for the change. The remark was, undoubtedly, an exaggeration, but it illustrated, as nothing else could, the overwhelming responsibility he felt in his representative capacity,

The specifications for the building called for brick moulding around six terra cotta panels, but on August 25, that was changed to call for eight-inch stone, at an additional cost of \$60.00. The work progressed, and as Mr. Mc Cormack or Mr. Nouss saw any slight change that would improve either the basic soundness of the building, or its beauty, they presented their are commendations for the changes to the building committee for approval. These changes sometimes added to the cost of construction, but Herman was determined that the new church would be made to stand as a monument of the workers in the congregation who had sacrificed and worked to make its erection possible. In this the building committee concurred.

So it was, that on September 25, Father Scharoun called a joint meeting of all the officials of all the catholic societies in Terre Haute. They went in the school hall of St. Benedict's, with Herman Hulman presiding. This was a day, long awaited by even the protestant citizens, for throughout the planning and construction periods they had shown nearly as much interest in the project as the congregation itself.

Plans were discussed and formulated, for the laying of the corner stone.

Everyone who attended the meeting felt that this was a definite milestone and preparations for a parade were made, which would make it a gala day as well as one of prayerful thanksgiving.

The state of the s

From the Terre Haute Evening Gazetter, a discription of the festivities and actual ceremony, gives an eventuess accounted

"On Sunday afternoon, October 4, 1896, it being the feast of the the Holy Rosary and of St. Francis of Assisi, founder of the Franciscan order, the corner stone of the new church was laid with impressive ceremonies by Bishop Chatard. Previous to the corner stone laying there was a street parade of all the Catholic societies of Terre Haute, headed by a platoon of police and two bands. Having marched through the principal streets, the line of march was directed the Union stateion to meet Bishop Chatard, who arrived at 2:45 p.m. and was escorted to the new church by the following societies: St. Francis society, Hibernian Benevolent Society, St. Joseph's Temperance society, Ancient order of Hibernians, four divisions, Catholic Knights of America, Young Men's Society, Young Men's Literary Union of St. Joseph's Church, St. Anthony's Young Men Society of St. Benedict's Church. Bishop Chatard was seated in a carriage driven by four white horses in which were seated Bishop ?Chatard, Mr. Hulman and Fater Scharoun Tr The preliminary services being over, the massive stone was lowered into position, guided on the north bide by the benefactor of St. Benedict's new church. Herman Hulman, whose generaous donations made it possible to undertake the erections of the new church on such an elaborate scale. After the ceremony the choir sang "Veni Creator" and Bishop Chatard mounted a large platform, which had been exected, and preached in English, followed by Father Starff O. S. F., in German. In conclusion, the pastor, Father Scharoun, intoned the "Te Deum" in which he was joined by the entire congregation, accompanied by the Ringgold band. This ended the impressive ceremonies. The day itself was a most delighful one and thousands of papele gathered to witness the avent. The ceremony lasted from 3:15 to 5:15 p.m. On the same Feast day of the Holy Rosary the corner stone of the old church was laid in 1864, and many people who witnessed the first corner stone laying were also present at the second. "

The articles in the corner stone represented a composite picture of the city at that time. All were placed in a copper box which was in turn placed in the corner stone. Many additional items were added to the list that had been placed in the first corner stone, and were as follows: a Document of the corner stone laying, written on parchamat; a history of the congregation from its formation to that day, Octover 4, 1896, compiled by Father Scgaroun; a volume of the history of the Catholic Church of the Diocese of Vincennes, by Father Alerding; a fascimile copy of the Constitution of the United States; A copy of the register of each society connected with St. Benedict's church; a copy of the school register with the names of the Sisters teaching at that time; a copy of the number of the members of the choir with a reportoire of their music; a copy of each of the Terre Haute daily papers,; current coins

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one of aluminum, and one of silver; a brass medal of St. Benedict; two souvenirs medals of the World's Fair at Chicago; a photgraph of the old St. Benedict's Church; a photograph of the then pastor; a copy of the city ordinances in book form; pictures of some prominent buildings in Terre Haute; a picture of Fort Harrison; some memntos; letters and catalogues of Mr. Hulman's; a map of Terre Haute, catalogue of the Prox and Brinkman Manufacturing Company; letters for future generations from Mayor Ross, John F. Brinkman, Miss Mary Heppner, house-keeper of the Rector, and Professor Jacob Breining, giving a brief history of the Ringgold band; a copy of Hoffman's Catholic Directory of 1896. The more valuable of the documents and papers were put into a glass jar and sealed before being put into the copper box.

The construction work on the new church building was done before the practice of steel reinforcing was a common practice. However, such buildings had been erected in preceding generations had had withstood thewaer efficenturies. This was the guiding spirit behind the work being done one.

Under the close supervision of the architect, contruction superintendent, it is ferrell, and with the interested advice from sidewalk superintendents, all guided by the building committee and its president, the church begen to take shape. Each stone and brick was carefully chosen, and as they were added to those already in place, the results were inspected with deliberate care. No imperfections were allowed to remain, and each worker knew that if his work did not measure up to the standards set, it would have to be redone until it satisfied the inspectors. Every man employed took great pride in setting each stone and brick as exactly as they knew how, so that their work might be a credit to them. The standards

One outstanding feature of thebuilding contributed in a large measure to the need for such care. In the entire building, neither theminside nor outside surfaces were marred by any brick corner. Mr. Abbott, who furnished the brick, commented that "this was Mr. Hulman's idea, the object being to preserve the corners

so they could not be knocked off and so as to keep the inside plastering and decorating thoroughly intact. I never saw a building of its size built all with round corners, and I must say Mr. Hulman's idea was a very good one."

A description of the building will give some idea of the infinite attention given to details throughout the entire construction and decoration period.

"The enriched Romanesque style of St. Benedict's Church, together with the colossal dome towering boldly into the air from the interseption of transsepts and nave, and the two side towers clean-cut and sharp, but perfectly symmetrical, give the whole building great strength of character and an air of solidity and stability of grandeur.

The towers are constructed on bases of bold rock-faced stone, which tapers gradually with massive avenues of the same material to the cornice line, where the enriched windows a department plasters extend to the base of the main gable, where they recede gracefully behind five turnets which again harmonize with the style of the dome. Each of the towers rise fifty feet above the ridge level and 125 feet above the level of the street.

At the entrance the main door is more pronounced than the side doors in as far as the heavy brick pilasters support a special gable. The arch itself is much strengthened in character by its resting in two dwarf stone columns.

The stone collande extending across on both sides adds greatly to the enrichment, while the huge rose window, with its minimum diemeter of seventy one feet, the keystone of the Romanesque, in which it is enclosed, rises to the base of the main gamble. On either side the transepts are well set off by the immense rose windows, collonade confessional niche, turrets, gable windows, etc. The sanctuary wall rises ninety feet into the air so that any one viewing the structure from any standpoint cannot help but admire its architectural beauty.

The height of the nave is sixty feet. The front has a width of seventysix feet. The entire length of the building is 130 feet. The transept is 120 feet wide.

From October 2, two days beforethe laying of the corner stone, until December 19, a number of extra contracts were made for additional work. On December 18, a com combination of bad weather and the inability of Mr. Abbott to ebtain round cornered brick in the amount needed, caused a suspension of construction until the weether conditions were improved.

On January 7, 1897, the committee met once again at which time a contract was let to ir. Abbott for the construction of a brick tunnel inside the Church building, to be paid for by Herman Hulman.

Work did not resume until the spring of 1897, but thereafter the work progressed

time passed with considerable work left to be done. However, concessions were madbecause of unforseen events. Each change of plan required extra time, for the contractors must provide the added materials, which insome cases meant deliveries from all parts of the country.

Everyone was in agreement concerning the delays, and the general feeling that those in charge of the work were capable men, who would not take unfair advantage of them, helped to make the time spent seem to be the only thing to do. A

After the actual construction work was far enough advanced, the work on the Church'sisterias began. It was here that Herman's taste in combining the beautiful Seatures of many of the European churches, together with some ideas of his own, showed to best advantage.

For the statues, paintings, carvings, and alters, Merman commissioned some of the best known artists of his day. The outstanding feature of embira interior was the painting over the High Altar. Artist Thaddeus Von Zukotynsk was internationally known for his painting. We was born on April 1, 1255 on Pedolia, southern Russia and began his study of art in Odessa at sixteen. After 7 years he entered the Academy of Arts in Lunich and become the most promising pupil of such famous professors as, Banzur, Gabl, Wagner and Garl Von Piloty. He received the highest prizes given at the academy for his painting, which featured accuracy of detail and the respalendant and southing harmony of color effect.

It was thought by many experts that the artist had painted his masterpiece over the majestic Alter of St. Benedict's Church, which was called "Salus Mundis".

In the center of the picture, with clouds forming a background that seemed at

any moment as if they might disaprear to reveal heaven, the Christ was painted. The expression on the face was one of sublime grandiur blended with infinite love that was truly a triumph of artistry. Behind the Figure was painted a luminous cross which formed a halo. His right arm was slightly raised, as thoug still trying to teach the way of truth to those he loved, while His left hand held the book with the Alpha and Omega - the beginning and the end. It his feet, someted

on a globe, are the figures of St. Mark and St. Luke, while to the right of Jesus, His mother kneels in adoration. To the left is John the Baptist, dressed as he would have been in the wilderness.

Parther to the right are painted the four great prophets, while nearest Him is Deniel, his right hand raised in prophecy. Ezekiel stands beside Daniel with the look of one accustomed to the horrors of exile. Jeremiah was next, depressed and lamenting, while Isaah stands, last with his hand raised as though in argument.

Still to the Right of the central figure were the four great fathers of the Church. St. Ambrose, St. Augustine, Hieronymous, and Gregory I, who composed the Gregorian chants. Next were the angels, bearing their insturments. To the right of them, a group of three carry the crown of thorns, the nails, and the sharp edged lance. At the left, the group seer the hideous wipping post.

The picture completed gave one the idea of a great and terrible grief suddenly changed to sublime joy, by the knowledge that the Savior had risen again and was truly the Savior of the World.

At the front of the church on each side of the High Abter rwo smaller alters were built. The one on the north was the Shrine of St. Alloysius, and that on the South, the Shrine of The Sacred Heart. The pulpit was supported by one of the eight Corinthian columns which supported the roof, was made of quartered oak. Its canopy and winding steircese, by which it was reached, were also of quartered oak.

Around the walls at regular intervals were placed the **St**ations of the Cross.

All the figures were sculptured from white marble and set in frames of gold. At
the rear of the church, supported by two marble pilasters, was the children's gallery.

The organ keyboard was in the center of the loft, with the pipes arranged in a circle around it against the west wall of the building.

The organ itself was a masterpiece of musical ingenuity. Professor William

Zobel of Terre Haute drew the specifications. He was recognized as one of the finest

musicians in the west, who came here from New York City, where he had been born.

He studdied in St. Benedict's College, Terre Haute, and New York City. He taught

music here for a time, but later went to Leipzig, where he attended the Conservatory of Music. He also studied privately. After the completion of his studies there, he went to Fienna, Florence, Naples, Rome and Paris, where he continued his studies. He returned to Terre Haute and taught here for many years. He had an organ and piano studio in the Rose Dispensary Building, and also conducted classes in musical science. For several years he was organist at St. Stephen'w Episcopal Church, -but late went to St. Benedict's.

W. W. Kimball & Company, of Chicago made the great organ, which was one of the largest and finest they had been made. A letter from the firm, received after the organ was finished said: "The organ is one that cannot be duplicated by any house in the business for less than \$14,000 or \$15,000 and we would not undertake to replace it for that figure."

The statuary, with the exeption of the Crucifixion Group, was made by A. Schiemann, of Munster, Westphalia. "The Piesta", which was placed in the north niche just intside the church entrance, was regarded as his best work. It represented the body of Jesus being taken from the cross, with His Mother Holding Him in Her arms. He made the 14 stations of the cross, as well as the Huge statue of St. Benedict, which stood high over the doorway in front of the church.

Another exemple of Herman's genius fro getting the right people to to the work he had in mind. Mr. Joseph Sibbel was chosen to portray the Crucifixion. This standing in an attitude of prayer standing with forlded hands, looking upward group represents the Virgin Mary and St. John at the foot of the cross, upon which hung the lifeless figure of Jesus. To best portray the story of His death, the artist chose the moment of death for the face of the Crucified Christ, when the long strife and mortal agony were finished and the Head bowed, and the lifeless form hanging limp and heavy.

The figures were six and one half feet hight done in white marble cement, and timted in old ivory.

The seats, pulpit, pulpit staircase, confessionals and communion rail, as well as almost the entire woodwork in the interior were of quartered oak and were made

especially for St. Benedict's by the Bruhswick@Balke- Collender Company of Chicago.

The marble vainscotting, the marble baptismak font and the marble part of the three altars were put in by Sherman & Flavin Co. of Chicago. The Bronze font in the corner was made by J. and R. Lamb, of New York.

The windows, especially the rose windows, were painted by anothergreat artist.

Victor Vonderforst, of Munster, Westphalia, who painted them in his own home and shipped them to Terre Haute. When they reached New York, the customs duty on them amounted to mostly \$2,700. This expense, together with the actual cost of the painting made them expensive, to say the least, but when they were put in place everyone agreed that the beauty they added to the structure, both inside and out, had made the price well worth while.

The ornamental plastering was done by Bell & Mauch of Chicago, at a cost of \$5,000, while the decoration painting was done by George Hefpfinger, a well known artist of Milwaukee.

The large candlesticks were imported from Iserlohn, Prussia, but the smaller ones were furnished by Benziger & Co. of Cincinnati.

The gas and electric light fixtures were made by Cassidy & Sone of New York, and the firm of Prox & Brinkman had been given the contract for the gast and steam heating. The concrete walks around the church and the sidewalks were made by Ferdinand Giebel.

On March 12, 1898, P. H. McCormack and Company turned the new church over to the trustees, the keys being left at the parsonage at 4:30 p.m. of that day.

On March 14, 1898, artist Hepfpinger began the work of frescoing. H/H/ furnished about \$600 worth of gold leaf.

on March 31, 1898, the stone staute of St. Benedict was put in position in the niche in the fron gable of the church under the superintendency of Mr. McCormack.

On April 24, 1898, a meeting of the trustees, building committee and officers of St. Francis Society was held. The object of the meeting was to discuss the question of purchasing bells for the new church. The St. Francis Society had raised a \$700 bell fund and it was thought that at the least, three or four bells should be

purchased. The group elected a committee consisting of Messrs. Hulman, Gerbarder, Prox and Father Scharoun, to visit the Stuckstede bell foundry at St. Louis. The men left for St. Louis on April 26, and reported back the result of their visit to a meeting held May 1 with a proposition from the S. Louis Company. There seems to be no record of what further business was done, but it is of record that the bells were finally ordered from the Menerly Bell Company of New York.

All the details concerning the interior decoration were under the constant supervision of Mr. Nouss, who, in turn, was in constant touch with Mr. Druiding, asthe interior of the church as well as the building itself, was of his design, and His career in this country had been phenominal, and many church and ecclesiastical buildings throughout the country proclaimed his artistic genius. Many thought that his complete acceptance was due, largely to the care and attention he gave to all his client's interests. He had worked with each of them, being careful always to incorporate their ideas into his plans and specifications. His constant supervision, combined with his love for his work, brought about the results that had made him famous.

Mr. Druiding was destined never to see the completed St. Benedict's Church, for on February 19, 1899, death claimed him. He would have been sixty-one in three month's time, and in four months he would have witnessed the dedication ceremony that drew people from the entire middles west. Everyone who had ever had dealings with him were impressed with the simplicity and goodness of the man, and many mourned the loss of so great a genius in his field.

Mr. Nouss, assistant architect, assumed entire control of the finishing of St, Benedict's Church. He had had the complete confidence in the honesty and ability of Mr. Druiding, who had this to say of his assistant, "I have the utmost confidence in the honesty and ability of Mr. Nouss, For sixteen long years he has given me faithful service and I cannot praise his commendable actions too much. I placed the construction of St. Benedict's in his hands because I was positive of his ability to carry the work through. If I were to die and neither of my two sons were old enough to care for the business in which I take so much pleasure, it is my wish that whr.

Houss give it his undivided care." In accordance with his wishes, Mr. Nouss became president and treasurer of the A. Druiding & Company (Inc.) firm, and under his skillfull management the business flourished.

After three years of planning and building, St. Benedict's finally neared completiaon. Plans began to be made for the dedication of the building, plans that would be fitting to the occasion and yet carry out the feeling of joyous celebration felt by the entire Catholic element of the surrounding territory.

Everyone in this section of the middle west kept informed about the details of the building, for interest in its construction had been kept at a high level by persons who visited the city or by those who lived in Terre Haute and traveled to other places. All were enthusiastic about what was going on at the corner of Minth and Walnut Streets in the Prairie City.

Because of this interest, arrangements were made for the crowds who were certain to attend such an important event. The officials of the Catholic Societies again took the situation in hand, and plans progressed for the final step in the long, arduous task that the congregation had set for themselves.

June, 3, marked the first time the church was opened to the public. An organ concert was arranged, so that arranged everyone could see the beauties of the Church, as well as hear the beautiful instrument that had been built especially for this Church, and which had caused so much comment. Hundreds of citizens arrived early to make sure of getting inside, and the church was filled long before the concert began. Crowds gathered around the doors where they could not see, but could hear. For over two hours the people were enchanted with the outstanding program that had been arranged for their pleasure.

To dedicate and consecrate the Church, the Right Reverend John Janssen, D.D. Bishop of Bellville, Illinois, the Very Reverend D. O'Donaghue, Administrator of the Dhoces of Indianapolis, and numberous other dignitaries of the church were present.

The ceremonies began at seven o'clock, on the morning of June 13, 1399. The

first service was the consecration of the High Altar by Bishop Janssen, to which no one but the clergy was admitted, and which lasted about two hours and a half. The dedication of the Church began at ten o'clock, with the formal services prescribed by the Church. The clergy went out to the front of the Church to administer exterior blessings, and made a circuit of the Church while the prayers, pro er to this part of the ceremony were recited. The clergy then returned to the front doors, which were then opened. They proceeded into the Church, followed by those who were soutenir badges, and they, in turn, were followed by all others, until the Church was filled. Ordinarily the capacity of the Church was one thousand, but on that day, another thousand were crowded in.

The services continued with the brief ceremony of blessing the interiorby the clergy. Pontifical High Mass was then celebrated by Bishop Janssen, assisted by the Very Reverend D. O'Donaghue. When this ceremony was completed, it was noon, and the clergy were escorted to the Terre Haute House for dinner, at which there was but one layman present. Herman Hulman, the man who had made such a magnificent Church possible, was thus honored for his distinguished service to his neighbors and friends.

That afternoon the parade of all the Catholic Societies of the city, marched down Wabash Avenue, past the Terre Haute House, where the clergy had remained to watch the proceedings. Now was the time for the jubilation everyone felt, and the parade was a gay one, but it could hardly express the feeling of profound thankfulness that prevailed throughout the congregation of the new Church. The line of march ended at St. Benedict's, where Pontifical Vespers were sung. After the "Magnificat" the sermon of the afternoon was preached by the Very Reverend D. O'Donaghue, one of the best pulpit orators of the west.

The services were ended with Solemn Benedictions and the chanting of the Te

Thus was a great undertaking completed. The Evening Gazetto paid tribute

to the man who had guided each step from the beginning to the end.

"Mr. Herman Hulman, Sr., has been the master spirit of the great undertaking that has resulted in the splendid St. Benedict's Church. Others as well as he, inspired by his own great gifts, have contributed and most liberally, according to their means, to the funds, but to Mr. Hulman by common consent has been left whereathe rest of the task. He selected the materials, he chose the architect and the artists and their work conformed to and carried out most beautifully the ideas, based on long study and much travel, which were in his brain.

For three years, since the Church was begun (and to less extent for years before that) this greatest merchant in Indiana, who has had time an strength of most men, has given up a large portion of his valuable time and much of his best thought to attain his ideal; an eye and an inspiration to the grateful heart in which to worship Almighty God. He has succeeded. Patience, industry, liberality, devotion to a cause always succeeds, at least in a fair degree: if they are united in exceptional natural gifts, as Mr. Hulman has demonstrated

he possesses they succeed in a high degree.

The new Church has cost between \$140,000 and \$150,000 but it could not be duplicated for less than \$200,000 unless the whole thing were copied and even that would be practically impossible. Money, however, has been but one of several things lavishly expended for the new Uhurch, and it has been, by no means, the most important element in securing the perfect results. There has been genius shown in a high degree, patience long practiced, industry unremitting, faithful devotion to the cause and fine judgment exhibited at every step. These latter qualities it is only the simple truth to say, have been shown by Mr. Hulman at every stage of progress of the work,"

Much credit must be given to those who served with Herman on the building and devoted to their church committee. All were well known and highly admired gentlemen. Of these was Joseph Frisz, vice-president and treasurer of the committe. In

In 1873 Joseph Frisz. newly arrived in Terre Haute, started a grocery store at 13th & Chestnuts Streets which he enlarged with a new building in 1885 and which needed an addition in 1889.

John Dommershausen, a native of the province of Hesse Nassau, Germany, came to Terre Haute in the spring of 1868, and with the exception of 10 years, he remained in T. H. (3) Until 1883 he follows his profession as bricklayer but in that year he started a grocery business at the corner of 15th & Liberty Avenue.

Frank Prox (a cousin (?) of the Hulmanss, was a native of Hanover, and came to Terre Haute in 1869, where he took a position with the McGregor Distillery for six years. After that time, he entered into the gasfitting and plumbing business with D. W. Watson, but the firm lasted only two years. Mr. Prox, the retiring partner began his own business at 677 Main Street. He was forced through successful business dealings to maximize build his own shop at 18-19 North Hinth Street. Within a short time he had taken in numbers 21-23-25 mater and his business continued to there are on January 27, 1890 he formed a partnership with J. F. Brinkman, and the two successfully conducted their business for many years.

Anton Herring (Haring) was another of the building committe who gave unsparingly of his time and knowledge. He came to Terre Haute from his native Holland in 1880. Early in his life it was evident of his skill with wood, and when he arrived here, he started a small contracting business, which proved very successful for him. His assistance in the building of the church and any suggestions which he made from time to tome were gratefully accepted.

John F. Brinkman (a plumber and fitter also, and partner to Prox)
Ernest Bleenel

August Fuchs (a German grocer)

Charenes (W) WU

# St. Benedict's Church (Taken from Hulman History pp. 61-63

The only Catholic Church in Terre Haute during these days of bitter strife and heavy hearts was St. Joseph's, which was in charge of the Benedictine Fathers and was located between Ohio and Walnut on the west side of Fifth Street. The Germans of the city attended this Church when the services were given in German for their particular benefit, but the Hulman families attended all the services diligently.

The fact that they felt they were outsiders in the Church of so many different nationalities caused the banding together of the Germans of the city for the purpose of finding some way in which they could have their own place of worship.

On the 17th of January in 1864, the German Catholics of Terre Haute, in compliance with the desire and invitation of a pastor, the Reverend Father Martin Harty, assembled for the purpose of discussing the feasibility of the building of the Church. There were thirteen gentlemen who heeded the invitation, and among these were Herman and Theodore Hulman who immediately took the initiative in the project. Notwithstanding the small number, they were not discouraged, and they resolved that each man present would exert himself to bring others to the cause. A committee was formed, with Herman at the head, to consult with carpenters as to the collet of a small church.

The next meeting was held January 31, 1864, with an increase of four members. At this meeting several plots of ground were proposed, but not having sufficient information nor funds for any ofther, nothing definite was decided. Then the Germans started a drive for funds, and everyone who had any money at all, or who could pledge to give at a later date, were urged to contribute. The chief contributors were Herman and Theorem, who threw themselves into the work for their Church as they had not done on any other project concerning the community, with the exception of their zeal displayed in their business. The two worked night and day, spending hours talking and planning for the project, and the devotion they gave to the cause was a great incentive to others.

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Community Affairs File

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On the 7th day of February, 1864, another meeting was held with the Reverend Father Fintan Mundwiler presiding. At this meeting arrangements were made to purchase a piece of property located on the southeast corner of Ninth and Ohio Streets, extending from Ninth Street to the Canal. On this piece of land they laid the foundation of St. Benedict's Church.

St. Boniface's Building Society was organized June 5, 1864, and this Society took great interest in so important a matter. On October 2, 1864, on the feast of the Holy Rosary, the corner stone for St. Benedict's Church was laid, in which was placed a nicked piece of the date 1862, a picture of St. Benedict, and a document concerning the Church, all enclosed in a tin fruit can and sealed with wax. On February 4, 1865, the edifice was formally dedicated to the services of God.

Thus were the good Germans rewarded for their efforts and energy. They fid not mind that the Church was very small and unpretentious, but they were grateful merely to have a place in which they could all worship together. Shortly after the opening of the Church, a rectory and school were built on the grounds, and they were rewarded further for their diligence.

On the 17th of January, 1864, the feast of the Holy Name of Jesus, the German Catholics of Perre Haute, in compliance with the desire and invitation of their pastor, ascembled for the purpose of discussing the feasibility of building a church of their own. Up to this time the Berman-speaking Catholics frequented St. Joseph's church on South Fifth street, which was in charge of the Benefictine Fathers. Thirteen gentlemen heeded the above invitation, with Rev. Father Martin Marty, O. S. B., at their head. Notwithstanding this small number, they were not discouraged, and it was resolved that each man present should exert himself to bring other German Catholics to the espousal of this noble cause and in the meantime consult with carpenters as to the cost of a small church.

The next meeting was held January 31, 1864, with an increase of four members. At this meeting several plots of ground were proposed, but, not having sufficient information concerning them, nothing definite was arrived at.

On the 7th of February, another meeting was held, the Rev. Fintan Mundwiler, O. S. S., presiding. At this meeting arrangements were made to purchase the present piece of property and erect upon it a church, school and parochial residence, in which later on they succeeded.

St. Boniface's Building society was organized June 5. This society took great interest in so important a matter and God blessed its efforts and zeal, for in a short time, October 2, 1864, on the feast of the Holy Rosary, the corner-stone for St. Benedict's

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Community Affairs File

(D. A.)
Herman Hulman and St. Benedict's
From History of The Catholic Church In Indiana
Fage 2 (Continued)

church was laid, and in the following year (1865) the edifice was formally dedicated to the services of God. Also a school and parochial residence were erected shortly after. Thus the German-speaking Catholics of Terre Paute acquired their own church, school and rectory, a reward of the untiring zeal of the Benedictine Fathers and of their own efforts and energy.

The congregation was under the direction of the Rev. Pius Kotterer, O. M. C., from March, 1872, to October, 1877. During his administation the church and school were enlarged.

The next pastor appointed was Rev. Bongvent re Zoller, O. M. C. and he remained in charge from Movember, 1886, to January, 1889. It was during his administration that the handsome school-house at the corner of Minth and Walnut streets, was built, at a cost of of 25,000, the corner-stone which was laid June 12, 1887. The following gentleren constituted the building committee: Mesars. Herman Hulman, 3r., Franz Frox, John F. Brinkman and Joseph Frisz. The cohect is considered the finest parochial school in the city, and is another monument to the energy and zeal of the German Catholics of Terre Haute.

The necessity for a more spacious church had been apparent for some years. Notwithstanding that the members of the congregation were willing to subscribe liberally forthis purpose, the undertaking, owingto hard times, had to be postponed. When the prospects were apparently more encouraging, a church fair was held for one week, beginning on the evening of November 4, 1895. The net proceeds, .4,050.03, were very encouraging, and were set aside as a building fund. After mature deliberation, the pastor called a meeting for

(I. A.)
Horman Hulman and St. Benedict's
From History of The Catholic Church In Indiana
Page 3 (Continued)

December 3, 1895, of the following gentlemen: Messrs. Lerman Hulman, 3r., Franz Prox, John F. Brinkman, Joseph Friez Br., Ernst Bloemel, John Dommerschausen, Anton Haring and August Fuchs. The meeting was very enthusiastic and all present unanimously concurred in the opinion that a new church was a necessity. It was decided to build after the Romanesque style of architecture. At this meeting a bilding committee of the above gentlemen was formed with the following permanent officers: II. Unlarge, president; J. Friez, vice-president; J. F. Brinkman, treasurer, and Rev. F. J. Scharoun, secretary.

Tous few days after, wenthe oullitte of matter with the to begin work earnestly, an inweller o visitor in the form of illness resulted in Father Scharson to be under the same and all remass retarded until Haron 10, 1.16, when the partor's condition was so far improved that he was able to sall the completed to its residence for further consultation. It this westing it was leaded that a committee of three, consisting of the partor, H. Hulman and .. Laring, be appointed to wisit and inspect aburdles in large neighboring cities and gather such information and ideas that would enable them to proceed intelligently in the building of the new of moh. Then the day (March 16) for domanture had arrived the pastor's condition and atremath were not sufficiently restored to undertake the journey, hence J. Frisz was appointed as a third rember of this committee. These tentlemen tent to uincy, Ill., then to Chicago Ill., where they visited many churches and made the acquaintance of A. Druiding, architect. Having seen several churches which had been built under his supervision, they made known to him their arrand. Having returned home, they resorted

(D. A.)
Herman Hulman and St. Benedict's
From History of The Catholic Church in Indiana
Fame 4 (Continued)

to the pastor, who called a meeting of the entire committee for March 31, at which it was definitely decided to erect a new church, and that A. Druiding be engaged to make plans, drawings and specifications for the same; it was furthermore decided to begin work at once, with removal of the old church. The work of tearing down the old church was commenced April 27; the corner-stone was discovered in the northwest corner of the foundation the 5th day of May. June 10, 1896, all plans, details and specifications for the new church were received. The pastor and building committee examined and criticized them thoroughly and accepted them, subject to some changes. Mr. Hulman, imbued with genuine Catholic spirit and neal for the new house of worship, went to Chicago to consult with the architect concerning these changes, also, in company with the mantor, visited other cities, to gather other useful ideas and information. June 25 the building committee assembled to ones the different bids of contractors. The lowest bid was that of P. M. McCormack, of Columbus, Ind. July 21 the work of excavation was commenced, the reverend pastor throwing out the first shovel of ground from the spot over which the high altar was to be erected. After a bed eighteen inches deep of concrete had been deposited in the trenches the reverend pastor, with the assistance of Mr. Hulman, laid the first stone in the northeast corner of the foundation. August 10; work was then continued by the contractor and progressed satisfactorily. On the 23rd day of September, 1396, a joint meeting of the officials of all the Catholic societies of the city was beld in St. Benedict's school in order to make arrangements for a parade on the day of the corner-stone laying.

(D. A.)
Herman Hulman and St. Benedict's
From 'History of The Catholic Church in Indiana
Page 5 (Continued)

On Sunday afternoon, October 4, 1896, it being the feast of the Holy Rosary and that of St. Francis of Assisi, founder of the Franciscan order, the corner-stone of St. Benedict's new church was blessed and laid by the Rt. Rev. Francis Silas Chatard, D. D., bishon of Vincennes.

Frevious to the ceremonies there was an immense street parade. Having marched through some of the principal streets of the city, the line of march was next directed to the Union depot to meet the right reverend bishop and escort him to the new church; at 2:45 p.m. his lordship arrived, and in a few minutes the societies began their return march toward the church.

Having arrived at the parochial residence, the bishop was received by the local and visiting plergymen. The bishop and clergy being vested, the procession, at 3:15 p.m., began tomore toward the new edifice, where the peremonias were performed as directed in the Pontifical Romanum. The preliminary peremonias being over, the massive stone was lowered into position, Suided on the north side by the benefactor, Herman Hulman, whose generous fonations had made it possible to undertake the erection of the new church on so elaborate a scale. After the paster intened a sermon was preached and in conclusion the paster intened the Te Deum, in which he was joined by the entire congregation. This ended the peremonies.

Work on the new church was again resumed and continued until cold weather necessitated a suspension until the spring of 1007, when work progressed uninterruntedly, so that the contractor was able to deliver over the building and keys of the same to the pastor and trustees on the 12th day of March, 1008.

Churches With WV

St. Benedict's Organ Recital Terre Haute Express Friday, June 9, 1899



#### ST. BENEDICT'S OPEN

# Magnificent Organ Recital Given

St. Benedict's Church, the pride of Terre Haute, was filled to overflowing last night with an audience eager to hear the new pipe organ and the famous Garden City Ladies quartette. Harrison M. Wild was the organist of the evening, and in addition to the work of the quartette, several vocal numbers were rendered by other pupils of Prof. Kowalski, who acted as musical director.

The crowd began to gather early, as it was the occasion of the first opening of St. Benedict's Church since the completion of the interior of the edifice. The church was filled a considerable time before the beginning of the programme and a large crowd was collected around the entrance. The recital began shortly after 8 o'clock and continued more than two hours.

Miss Maude Dewey of the quartette was suffering from a severe attack of tonsilitis and was unable to sing. Her place was taken by Miss Inez Taylor of Sullivan, one of Prof. Kowalskis pupils, who received notice that she would appear on the program only a short time before the concert. On account of Miss Dewey's sickness the program was slightly changed.

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TERRE HAUTE, INDIANA

REFERENCE DO NOT CIRCULATE St. Benedict's (description) Terre Haute Express Friday, June 9, 1899

#### IS A MARVEL OF BEAUTY

St. Benedict's Church Presents A Beautiful Apperance

The interior of St. Benedict's Church presents an appearance unrivaled in church architecture in Indiana. With beauty it combines a solemn granduer which impresses all who enter its portals. The Divine Architect seems to have had a hand in its construction, in all the intricate details and frescoing which are carried out to such marvelous exactitude.

The predominating color is gold and white, to which the dark hue of the quarted oak seats and pulpit furnishes a suitable setting. Doubtless the first thing a casual observer would note upon entering the church is the altar, which is one of the finest of its kind in existence. It is made on the regular style of Catholic altars, with a statue of Christ in the center, to his left the Blessed Virgin, to the right, St. John. At the foot of the altar and on each side facing each other are two adoring angels with bowed heads.

At the front of the church and on each side of the main altar are two side side altars, the one on the north of the Shrine of St. Alloysius, that on the south, the Shrine of The Sacred Heart. They occupy small alcoves in he front of the church. The pulpet, which is supported by one of the eight Corinthian columns which support the roof of the church, is made of quartered oak with a canopy of the same material. It is reached by a winding staircase, also of quartered oak.

St. Benedict's (description Terre Haute Express Friday, June 9, 1899 Page 2 (continued)

Directly in front of the altar and suspended above the chancelrail by a chain of bronze, fantastically figured, is the sanctuary lamp. It is a beautiful piece of figured work, the bronze globe beneath the lamp being beautifully decorated. The chancel-rail, the same as the rest of the wood-work is of quartered oak eight inches wide.

The general plan of architecture carried out in the ceiling and windows is Gothic. The columns of marble, eight in number, which support the roof, seem to extend upward as far as the eye can reach, in the rafters of gold and white fresco which unite at regular intervals. The windows, for the most part, also follow out the Gothic idea, uniting in apoint at the top. The cathedral glass which is used is of the finest, and allows the light to filter softly through.

Around the walls at regular intervals are placed fourteen allegorical sculptured figures representing scenes and events in the life of Christ. They are carved from white marble, and set in frames of gold. At the rear of the church, and supported by two marble pilasters, is the children's gallery. The keyboard of the organ is directly in the center of the loft, while the pipes are arranged in a circle around it, and against the west wall of the building.

Yesterday afternoon a large number of womenand children were engaged in cleaning up the church for the recital last night, as everything was dusty from the labors of the workmen who have been for so long engaged in putting the finishing touches on what is doubtless a marvel of architecture. Every pew had to be cleaned, as well as the pulpit and chancel-rail, for the dust had settled thickly upon them.

Churches CENTY WV

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St. Benedict's Organ Concert From Evening Gazette

### ST. BENEDICT'S ORGAN CONCERT

A Great Success Musically--The New Church Much Admired

MOST BEAUTIFUL IN STATE

Hundreds of leading citizens who attended the opening of St. Benedict's new church last night, to see the magnificent new edifice and to enjoy the great new organ and concert, admitted that all the Gazette had been saying about the rare beauty of the church, was under rather than an over statement.

The new church has cost \$150,00 but it could not be duplicated for less than \$200,000 unless the whole thing were copied and even that would be practically impossible.

Money, however, has been but one of several things lavishly expended for the new church, and it has been, by no means, the most important element in securing the perfect results. There has been genuis shown in a high degree, patience long practiced, industry unremitting, faithful devotion to the cause and fine judgment exhibited at every step. These latter qualities, it is only simple truth to say, have been shown by Mr. H. Hulman. He has been the master spirit. Others as well as he, inspired by his own great gifts, have, contributed, and most liberally, accordingly to their means, to the funds, but to Mr. Hulman, by common consent, has been left the rest of the task.

He selected the materials, he chose the architect and the artists and their work conformed to and carried out most beautifully the ideas, based on long study and much travel, which were in his brain.

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St. Benedict's Organ Concert From Evening Gazette 312

Page 2 (continued)

extent for years before that) this greatest merchant in Indiana, who has many and important private interests, which would absorb entirely the time and strength of most men, has given up a large portion of his valuable time and much of his best thought to attain his ideal—a beautiful temple, correct and perfect, a delight to the cultivated eye and an inspiration to the grateful heart in which to worship Almighty God.

He has succeeded. Patience, industry, liberality, devotion to a cause always succeed, at least in fair degree, if they are united to exceptional natural gifts, as Mr. Hulman has demonstrated he possesses, they succeed in high degree.

St. Benedict's Dedication From Evening Gazette June 17, 1899

THE OPENING ON SUNDAY OF A MAGNIFICENT CHURCH

A Splendid Temple Costing \$150,000

A Great Church In Which All St. Benedict's

Parish Has Lent A Helping Hand. Spurred

On By The Unselfish Generosity Of

Mr. Herman Hulman, Sr.

First Meeting Held---Dec. 3, 1895

Druiding's Plans First Submitted---March 31, 1896

Subscription List Opened---April 26, 1896

Began To Tear Down Old Church---April 27, 1896

Plans Finally Delivered---June 10, 1896

Contract Let To M'Cormack---June 25, 1896

Ground Broken---July 21, 1896

Corner Stone Laid---Oct. 4, 1896

Keys Of Church Turned Over---March 12, 1898

Windows Arrive From Europe---July 13, 1898

Church Dedicated---June 18, 1899

Sunday will be a notable day in Terre Haute, for it is then that that magnificent temple of divine worship, St. Benedict's church will be dedicated to the services of the church and the citizens of the Prairie City can proudly assert that it contains the handsomest and most complete church edifice, not only in Indiana, but in the entire west, for, indeed experts have freely pronounced St. Benedict's church, in all its parts, the prettiest church in the country.

St. Benedict's Dedication From Evening Gazette June 17, 1899 Page 2 (continued)



Sunday services will open early. At 7 o'clock the services of the day will begin by the consecration of the high alter by Right Rev. John Janssen, D. D., Bishop of Bellville, Ill. At this service none will be admitted but the clergy and these exercises will last probably two hours and a half. Beginning at 10 o'clock will occur the dedication of the church. The formal services prescribed by the church will be carried out. The clergy will come out to the front of the church and will give the exterior blessings, making a circuit of the church while the prayers set out for such occasions are recited. After the exterior blessing the doors will be opened, the clergy entering first, then those who wear souvenir badges and then all others as faras the capacity of the church will hold. The seating capacity of the church on both floors is a thousand, but Sunday it is expected that another thousand can be crowded in. On re-entering the church the interior will be blessed by the clergy, this ceremony being brief, and then the pontifical high mass will be celebrated. Bishop Janssen will pontificate, assisted by the first priest, who will be Very Rev. D. O'Donaghue, administrator of the diocese of Indianapolis. (Names of high ranking clergy)

After the pontifical high mass all of the clergy will be taken to the Terre Haute house for dinner, the only layman to be present being Herman Hulman, Sr., Terre Haute's honored philanthropist, to whom St. Benedict's congregation is indebted so largely for this magnificent church.

In the afternoon will occur the parade of all the Catholic societies of the city and the pontifical vespers at the church. The parade will be reviewed from the Terre Haute house by the clergy.

St. Benedict's Dedication From Evening Gazette June 17, 1899 Page 3 (continued)

At the conclusion of the parade pontifical vespers will be sung.

After the "Magnificent" the sermon of the afternoon will be preached in English by Very Rev. D. O'Donaghue, Administrator of the diocese if Indianapolis, one of the best pulpit orators in the West, closing with solemn benedictions and the chanting of the "Te Deum" by the choir and the entire congregation. This will conclude the exercises of the day.

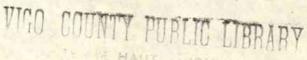
St. Benedict's-Story In Detail Of Steps From Evening Gazette-June 17, 1899

## STORY IN DETAIL OF ALL THE STEPS

From The First Meeting Of The Congregation Till Completion

The first steps for the building of a new church for St. Benedict's congregation were taken at a meeting held on Dec. 3, 1895, when Hermen Hulman, Frank Prox, John F. Brinkman, Joseph Frisz, Ernest Bleemel, John Dommershausen, Anton Haring and August Fuchs, all members of the congregation, and Father Peter W. Scharoun, the pastor, met at the rectory for the purpose of forming a building committee. At this meeting Mr. Hulman was chosen temporary chairman and Father Scharoun temporary secretary. All the above named gentlemen were elected members of what was styled "The Building Committee of St. Benedict's New Church." Next was discussed the matter of location and position of the new church structure and the conclusion was reached that the new church should be located at the southeast corner of Ninth and Ohio facing toward Ninth.

Next the style of architecture was discussed, whether the new church should be Gothic or Romanesque. After discussing the merits and beauties of both styles the committee concluded to adopt the Romanesque style as giving more scope for deviation. It was not determined at this meeting whether the church should be of stone, pressed brick or ordinary building brick, this question being left for a future meeting. On motion of Mr. Brinkman a committee of three, composed of Father Scharoun and Messrs. Hulman and Haring, was appointed to visit and inspect churches in different localities.



St. Benedict's-Story In Detail Of Steps From Evening Gazette-June 17, 1899 Page 2 (continued) 347

### Permanent Officers

The next meeting was not held till March 10,1896. At this meeting permanent officers were elected, as follows: President, Herman Hulman; Vice President, Joseph Frisz; Treasurer, John F. Brinkman; Secretary, Father Scharoun. It was discussed as to whether it would be advisable that churches at Quincy and Chicago be visited and information gathered as to their cost, style of architecture and names of the architects before definitely consulting with any architects for the submission of plans. The committeedecided in favor of such a plan and resolved that the committee of three appointed at the first meeting on December 3, 1895, visit Quincy and Chicago for this purpose.

# The Visit To Quincy

On March 24, 1896, the building committee held its third meeting, when the committee of three made its report. Father Scharoun was unable, owing to illness, to accompany the other members of the committee, and John Frisz had been appointed the third member in his place. The members reported that they had visited several churches at Quincy, but saw none there that impressed them as suitable for St. Benedict's congregation, and had them visit Chicago, where after inspecting many churches of different styles of architecture and cost, had found a church (St. George's) that pleased them more than any other they had seen. The committee came to the conclusion that a church similar to this, with some modifications, alterations, and additions of details in plan, would be suitable to St. Benedict's congregation. Mr. Hulman had inquired from the pastor of St. George's church the name of the architect who drew the plans and was informed that A. Druiding of Chicago, was the architect. The next church the



committee visited in Chicago also impressed the members and they found that it also had been designed by Mr. Druiding. The committee next called on Mr. Druiding, who offered to make sketches and per-spectives for the proposed new church. Mr. Hulman, being deeply interested in the matter of procuring plans of a church which would at the same time be suitable for the needs of the congregation, a monument of piety and zeal and an ornament to the city of Terre Haute, remained over for another day in order to thoroughly discuss the subject of the proposed new church. Accordingly, the next day Mr. Hulman was accompanied by Mr. Druiding to the same churches the committee had seen and after a thorough investigation of the structures Mr. Hulman concluded that Mr. Druiding was just the person the committee was looking for and he commissioned him to submit plans similar to those of the two churches they had seen, omitting certain details that seemed objectionable to him, altering others and adding some new features that Mr. Hulman suggested. of the committee was listened to with great interest by the members and was highly pleasing. Father Scharoun was empowered to consult with Bishop Chatard concerning the erection of the proposed new church.

On May 18, 1896 Bishop Chatard endorsed the plan for St.

Benedict's new church in the following language: "I have this day
seen the minutes of St. Benedict's new church to date, including
the building account of receipts and expenditures, and hereby approve
them and express my satisfaction at the excellent manner in which
they are kept."

### The Romanesque Style

The next meeting of he building committee was held March 31, 1896, at 10 a.m. at the parsonage. The object was to examine the plans of different styles of churches submitted by architect Druiding in person. After discussion the committee decided finally toadopt the Romanesque style with two front cupalo over the nave and transept. Many alterations were suggested to Mr. Druiding in regard to the exterior style of construction and ornamentation and also some radical changes in the interior. Mr. Druiding, having noted the different changes suggested, promised to submit another plan in conformity to such changes within two weeks. The meeting this day was a protracted one, continuing from 10 a.m. to noon and from 2 to 6 p.m.

# Druiding's Plans Approved

On April 4, 1896, a special meeting of the building committee was called by President Hulman, the architect being ready in person to submit his altered plans. Mr. Druiding submitted and explained his new plans in detail and all the members were greatly pleased. The sketch and floor plan were left here for several days for further inspection as well as to give Father Scharoun an opportunity to show them to Bishop Chatard, who took a great interest in the undertaking. Next was discussed the question of moving the old church building and it was decided that it would be best, in order to facilitate matters, for the old church to be torn down at once and Mr. Hulman was asked to insert notices in the daily papers for bids for removing the old church. Mr. Haring was engaged to removeall the church furniture from the old church, except the pipe organ, to the old school hall. The pipe organ was ordered removed and set



# Subscription List Opened

On April 26, 1896, a special meeting of all the male members of the congregation was held at the school hall, when a subscription list was opened and signed by those present. Father Scharoun reported that Bishop Chatard had given his formal assent to the building of the new church and at the same time the bishop had announced his hearty gratification at the movement that was on foot. Mr. Hulman announced that he had visited architect Druiding relative to some changes to be made in the large dome and in the transept, the change being agreed to Mr. Hulman and Mr. Prox were requested to make another visit to Chicago and consult the architect in regard to covering the roof of the dome and the towers with copper, and glazing the windows with art stained glass. The different bids for tearing down the old church were opened. Anton Haring and Micheal Kennedy, acting together, were the lowest bidders, their bid being \$500, and they were given the contract with instructions to begin work on the following day, allmaterial to remain the property of the congregation.

#### Old Church Torn Down

The next morning, Monday, April 27, 1896, Messrs. Haring and Kennedy started to tear down the old church. On May 6 the corner stone was found in the nothwest corner of the foundation. The documents, a nickel piece of the date of 1862 and a picture of St. Benedict were found enclosed in atin fruit can, closed with ceiling wax. The document was in a bad state of preservation, in shreds and pieces, and the writing so obliterated that nothing could be deciphered, caused by rust and dampness. The work of tearing downand removing the old chruch was fully completed on Saturday afternoon May 6, 1896.

Mr. Haring was instructed to remove the sexton's house on the vacant lot across Ninth and a half street, the house to remain the property

St. Benedict's-Story In Detail Of Steps From Evening Gazette-June 17, 1899 Page 6 (continued)

of the congregation.

The building committee next met June 12, 1896, when President Hulman reported that on June 10, 1896, Architect Druiding had delivered all the plans, details and specifications. The same were formally accepted. One set was ordered to be placed in the northeast school corner room and another set in the room in the south side of the building on the second floor for the convenience of the contractors wishing to bid. A vote of thanks was unanimously tendered the different committees that had visited other cities on business connected with the new church and who has paid their railroad fares and expenses, special thanks being voted Mr. Hulman.

### Contract Let To Mr. McCormack

We now find the contract let for building the new church. This was done at a meeting of the building committee held on June 25, 1896 architect Druiding being in attendance. The different bids were opened and considered and the bid of P. H. McCormack & Co. of Columbus Ind., was found to be the lowest and the contract was let to this firm. This firms bid was to erect the new church, furnish all the lavor and material, except the common brick, tiling for the ailes and flooring according to the plans and specifications, for the sum of \$62,000. Mr. McCormak who was in the city, was sent to appear before the building committee, which he did. He was informed by President Hulman that his bid was the lowest and that the contract had been let to him. Mr. McCormak thanked the committee and accepteed the contract, offering to give bond in the sum of \$50,000 for the faithful performance of his contract. It was farther agreed that Mr. McCormak was to have the church completed by September 1, 1897.

St. Benedict's-Story In Detail Of Steps From Evening-Gazette-June 17, 1899 Page 7 (continued)



Mr. Brinkman resigned as Treasurer and as a member of the building committee and Joseph Frisz was chosen to fill the vacancy, Mr. Frisz also being made Treasurer. The new treasurer was unstructed to deposit the money of the building committee in McKeen's bank.

The building committee next met July 6, 1896Architect
Druiding and Contractor McCormak both being present, when all the
details were gone over so that a definite understanding should be
reached on all points. It was found that Mr. McCormak had not
figured on a second section of ornamental plastering. The feasibility of constructing the large rose windows in the transept
similar to the one in the front of the church was discussed, but no
definite action was taken. Mr. McCormak was maked at what figure
he would sell the cut stone contract to the building committee and
he promised to have an estimate prepared the following day.

#### The Cut Stone Contract

The following day, July 7, 1896, the building committee met and Mr. McCormak made the following propositions. He agreed to allow the building committee \$12,681 for the cut stone contract, this to include all cut stone. For strengthening and additional four inches of walls in the gable ends of transept if the alteration was made.

Mr. McCormak was to be paid \$125; he was to receive 15 per cent of the cost of the extra stone work, \$3 per thousand for laying extra brick; \$9 per yard for stone masonry and for peirs \$5.90 per cubic yard.

It was agreed that all granite columns inside the building must be of new Maine stone granite and all outside columns the best dark gray new Maine granite, all the columns to be furnished to suit Mr. Hulman. Mr. Mccrmak agreed to begin work July 15, 1896. The total

St. Benedict's-Story In Detail Of Steps From Evening Gazette-June 17, 1899 Page 8 (continued)



amount of the original contract was \$62,700, less the cost of the stone contract \$12,681, leaving the net amount of Mr. McCormak's contract as \$50,019. Architect Druiding agreed to furnish the corner stone of the new church free of charge as well as thedesign and drawings for the carving and Mr. McCormak offered to do the cutting, carving and setting free of charge. The meeting adjourned with all parties thoroughly satisfied.



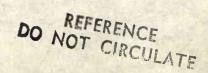
### THE MASTER SPIRIT WAS H. HULMAN SR.

Mr. Hermen Hulman Sr., has been the master spirit of the great undertaking that has resulted in the splendid St. Benedict's church. Others as well as he, inspired by his won great gifts, have contributed, and most liberally, according to their means, to the funds, but to Mr. Hulman by common consent has been left the rest of the task. He selected the materials, he chose the architect and the artists and their work conformed to and carried out most beautifully the ideas, based on long study and much travel, which were in his brain.

For three years, since the church was begun (and to less extent for years before that) this greatest merchant in Indiana, who has had many and important private interests, which would absorb entirely the time and strength of most men, has given up a large portion of his valuable time and much of his best thought to attain his ideal: a beautiful temple, correct and perfect, a delight to the cultivated eye and an inspiration to the grateful heart in which to worship Almighty God. He has succeeded. Patience, industry, liberality, devotion to a cause always succeed, at least in a fair degree: if they are united in exceptional natural gifts, as Mr. Hulman has demonstrated he posesses, they succeed in a high degree.

The new church has cost between \$140,000 and \$150,000 but it could not be duplicated for less than \$200,000 unless the whole thing were copied and even that would be practically impossible. Money, however, has been but one of several things lavishly expended for the new church, and it has been, by no means, the most important element in securing the perfect results. There has been genius shown in a high degree, patience long practiced, industry umremitting,





St. Benedict's-The Master Spirit--H. Hulman Sr. From Evening Gazette-June 17, 1899

Page 2 (continued)



faithful devotion to the cause and fine judgment exhibited at every step. These latter qualities, it is only simple truth to say have been shown by Mr. Hulman at every stage of progress of the work.

Mr. Hulman was born at Lingen, Hanover, Germany, April 20, 1831. His years of growth and education were spent in the town of his nativity, where he received the advantages of a higher education. At the age of eighteen he engaged in the grocery trade on his own account in Osnabruck, Hanover, which he successfully conducted for four years. His elder brother F. T. Hulman, had emigrated to America in 1850 and had settled in Terre Haute, where he engaged in the grocery business. At his solicitation Hermen Hulman closed out his business at Osnabruck and came to America joining his brother in Terre Haute and becoming associated with him in business. The firm prospered and their trade was well established when, in 1858, a shocking misfortune came upon the family. It was in this year that F. T. Hulman, accompanied by his entire family, concluded to visit his old home and friends, all being lost on the illfated steamer "Austria" which went down to the bottom of the sea. This left Hermen Hulman in charge of the entire concern, which he carried on alone till 1859, when he formed a partnership with R. S. Cox, who had been his rival in the grocery trade.

shortly after this Mr. Hulman purchased McGregor & Co's, distabler at that ime a rather small concern. This he enlarged and increased in capacity, making it one of the most extensive concerns in western Indiana. Mr. Hulman remained sole manager of this enterprise until 1875, when, on account of failing health and a desire to revisit Europe, he disposed of his distillery to Crawford Fairbanks.

St. Benedict's-The MasterSpirit-H. Hulman Sr. From Evening Gazette-June 17, 1899
Page (continued)

On his return, however, he purchased an interest in the distillery and the new firm was known as Hulman and Fairbanks. In 1878 Mr. Hulman traded his interest in the distillery for R. S. Cox's interest in the grocery business, becoming once more sole proprietor of the wholesale grocery, which he continued under the name of Herman Hulman until 1886, when B. G. Cox and Anton Hulman became associated in the firm under the name of Hulman & Co. Mr. Cox died recently and Anton Hulman has succeded to the active management of the great store. The present Hulman block, the finest by long odds in the city or the state, was built by Mr. Hulman in 1892-93 and was expressly designed for the economical handling of the vast trade of one of the largest wholesale houses west of the Alleghanies.

Great as has been Mr. Hulman's prosperity it is as a philanthropist and as a public-spirited and liberal friend of the city of Terre Haute, its advancement and the comfort of the people, the permanent good of its railroads, factories, schools, churches and hospitals-which have been the fields of his greatest efforts to benefit his fellow men-that has made his name so greatly honored. It is to his munificence chiefly that there exists that noble institution, St. Anthony's Hospital, which institution occupies the site of the old St. Agnes Episcopal college. The grounds and building were purchased by Mr. Hulman and donated to the Poor Sisters of St. Francis and remodeled and enlarged into its present from. It is not known generally the exact amount of Mr. Hulman's contribution to St. Anthony's Hospital, but altogether it is a very large sum. In the completion and furnishings of the hospital, however, liberal contributions were made by several of the leading men of the city.

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St. Benedict's-The Master Spirit--H. Hulman Sr. From Evening Gazette-June 17, 1899
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Mr. Hulman has been one of the main promoters of all railroad enterprises.

On April 17, 1883, Mrs. Hulman died devoted in the faith of the Catholic church-a pure christian woman of rare qualities of mind and heart, filled with love and charity and equally beloved by all who knew her.

# GROUND BROKEN ON JULY 21, 1896

On July 17, 1896, Mr. McCormak came to Terre Haute and signed his contract in the sum of \$50,019, also furnishing a \$50,000 bond. Mr. McCormak engaged Micheal Kennedy, a member of the parish, to do the excavating and the work of excavating was begun on Tuesday morning, July 21, 1896. Father Scharoun dug out the first shovel of ground and work was then commenced with a force of men. Jacob Bennett, a member of the parish, the brick manufacturer, delivered the first load of common brick to be used in the erection of the new church on July 10, 1896. The first load of and crushed stone and imported cement were delivered Aug. 3, 1896. A. S. Falls, the architect's superintendent arrived on the same day. On August 4, 1896 the first bed of concrete was laid under the southwest corner of the southwest tower.

July 22, 1896, cut stone contract was let to E. J. Edwards, of Chicago, for \$11,700, the contract being signed by the trustees of the church as follows: H. Hulman, John Dommershausen, John C. Vendal, Henry Bennett, George Haring, Bishop Chatardand Father Scharoun.

On August 5, 1896, the contract for additional cut stone work was let to E. J. Edwards, of Chicago, in the sum of \$3,155.

First Shovel Of Concorect

On August 6, 1896, the work of concreting was begun under the north tower, northeast corner. Mr. Hulman threw the first shovel of concrete into the trench and Father Sharoun the second.

On August 10, 1896, the first load of rubble stone was delivered

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St.Benedict's-Ground Broken From Evening Gazette-June 17, 1899 Page 2 (continued)

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on the premises. The first stone was laid in cement in the northeast corner of the foundation of the sacristy by Father Sharoun and Mr. Hulman.

On August 12, 1896, the first stone was laid in the south tower with the use of a derrick. This stone was laid in the south—west corner by Father Scharoun, assisted by Mr. Hulman.

On August 6, 1896, Mr. McCormack's proposal for extra excavation, concreting and stone for the six large piers was accepted in the sum of \$354.15.

On August 25, 1896, it was agreed that the brick moulding around the terra cotta panels No. 2, six in all, be changed to stone eight inches according to detail for \$60.00.

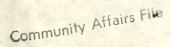
On September 25, 1896, an extra agreement was made with Mr. Edwards, the stone contractor for extra work in the sum of \$133.

On September 23, 1896, a joint meeting of all the officials of the Catholic societies of Terre Haute was held at St. Benedict's school hall to make arrangements for the corner stone laying for a parade on that day. Mr. Hulman presided at this meeting.

On September 26, 1896, a contract was entered into with Edwards and Ward, the cut stone contractors, for \$400.00 for extra work.

# CORNER STONE LAYING OCTOBER 4, 1896

On Sunday afternoon, October 4, 1896, it being the feast of the Holy Rosary and of St. Francis of Assisi, founder of the Franciscan order, the corner stone of the new church was laid with impressive ceremonies by Bishop Chatard. Previous to the corner stone laying there was a street parade of all the Catholic societies of Terre Haute, headed by a platoon of police and two bands. Having marched through the principal streets the line of march was directed to the Union station to meet Bishop Chatard, who arrived at 2:45 p.m. and was escorted to the new church by the following societies: St. Francis society, Hibernian Benevolent Society, St. Joseph's Temperance society, Ancient Order of Hibernians, four divisions, Catholic Knights of America, Young Men's society, Young Men's Literary Union of St. Joseph's Church, St. Anthony's Young Men's Society of St. Benedict's Church. Bishop Chatard was seated in a carriage driven by four white horses in which were seated Bishop Chatard, Mr. Hulman and Father Scharoun. The perliminary services being over, the massive stone was lowered into position, guided on the north side by the benefactor of St. Benedict's new church. Herman Hulman, whose generous donations made it possible to undertake the erection of the new church on such an elaborate scale. After the ceremony the choir sang "Veni Creator" and Bishop Chatard mounted a large platform, which had been erected, and preached in English, followed by Father Starff O. S. F., in German. In conclusion, the pastor, Father Scharoun, intoned the "Te Deum" in which he was joined by





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the entire congregationaccompanied by the Ringgold band. This ended the impressive ceremonies. The day itself was a most delightful one and thousand of people gathered to witness the event. The ceremony lasted from 3:15 to 5:15 p.m. On the same Feast day of the Holy Rosary, the corner stone of the old church was laid in 1864, and many people who witnessed the first corner stone laying were also present at the second.

Articles In The Gorner Stone

These articles were placed in the copper box placed in the corner stone, document of corner stone laying written on parchment, a history of the congregation from its formation to that day, October 4, 1896, compiled by Father Scharoun, a volumn of the history of the Catholic Church of the diocese of Vincennes by Father Alerding, a fascimile copy of the Constitution of the United States, a copy of the register of each society connected with St. Benedict's church, a copy of the school register with the names of the sisters teachiing at that time, a copy of the number of the members of the choir with a reportiore of their music, a copy of each of the Terre Haute daily papers, current United States coins from one cent to a dollar, three medals of the B. V. M., one of brass, one of aluminum, one of silver, a brass medal of St. Benedict, two souvenir medals of the World's Fair at Chicago, a photograph of the old St. Benedict's church, a photograph of the then pastor, city ordinances in book form, pictures of some prominent buildings in Terre Haute, a picture of Fort Harrison, some memenots, letters and catalogues of Mr. Hulman's map of Terre Haute, catalogue of the Prox and Brinkman Manufacturing Company, letters for future generations from Mayor Ross, John F. Brinkman, Miss Mary Heppner, housekeeper of the rector, and Professor

St. Benedict's-Corner Stone Laying From Evening Gazette-June 17, 1899 Page 3 (continued)



Jacob Breining, giving a brief history of the Ringgold band and a copy of Hoffman's Catholic Directory of 1896. The more valuable documents and papers were put into a glass jar and sealed before being put into the copper box.

## WORK TEMPORARILY SUSPENDED

From October 2, 1896, to December 19, 1896, a number of extra contracts were made with contractors for additional work. Work on the new church was temporarily suspended Friday December 18, 1896, as the firm furnishing the pressed brick was unable to supply the contractor with round cornered brick and besides the weather was quite uncertain.

On January 7, 1897, the building committee met and the contract between C. W. Abbott and the committee was reported as completed for constructing a brick tunnel inside the church building, Mr. Hulman personally paying this expense.

At a meeting of the building committee on May 3, 1897, the necessity of a parsonage was discussed and all members present declared in favor of a new parsonage, but no steps were taken.



#### TWO NOTED ARTISTS

Two important contracts were let March 8, 1898, by the building committee. The contract for the fresco paintings was awarded to artist George Hepfinger, of Milwaukee, for \$2,2000, the committee through Mr. Hulman, to furnish about \$600 worth of gold leaf. The painting of the large picture over the altar was let to a noted artist, Thaddeus Zukotynski, of Chicago, formerly of Munich, Bavaria, who agreed to paint one large group on the ceiling over the sanctuary and high altar at \$100 for each figure. This painting cost \$2,000 and is regarded as one of the finest church creations in the country.

## THE QUESTION OF BELLS

On April 24, 1898, a meeting of the trustees, building committee and officers of St. Francis society was held. The object of the meeting was to discuss the question of purchasing bells for the new church. St. Francis society had raised \$700 as a bell fund and it was thought at least three or four bells should be purchased. A committee was appointed consisting of Messrs. Hulman, Gerbarder, Prox and Father Scharoun to visit the Stuckstede bell foundry at St. Louis, This committee left for St. Louis April 26, 1898, and reported back the result of their visit to a meeting held May 1,1898, with a proposition from the St. Louis bell foundry.

On February 15, 1898, the stucco men finished their work except the sides and lower part of the frames for the station of the cross.

On February 22, 1898, the hardwood finishers compledted their

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## CHURCH TURNED OVER MARCH 12, 1898

On March 12, 1898, P. H. McCormack and Co., turned the new church over to the trustees, the keys being left at the parsonage at 4:30 p.m. of that day.

On March 14, 1898 artist Hepfinger began the work of frescoing.

On March 31, 1898, the stone statue of St. Benedict's was put

in position in the niche in the front gable of the church under

the superintendency of P. H. McCormack.

On July 7, 1898 artist Thaddeus Zūkotynski and his assistant John Kappler began work in the large group pictures over the sanctuary.

The stained glass windows were shipped from Europe June 25, 1898, and arrived here July 13, 1898. The customs duty on these windows were \$2,637.90.

The church bells were ordered from the Menerly Bell Co. of New York.

#### OTTO BRINKMAN'S FUND

At a meeting of the trustees September 15, 1898, Otto H.

Brinkman, through his father John F. Brinkman, offered a donation
of \$1,000 to the trustees of St. Benedict's Church, the same to be
used for the creation of a "Charity School Fund" for St. Benedict's
school, the purpose being to furnish books and other school necessaries
as well as tuition and shoes and stockings to the school children
of poor widows who are members of St. Benedict's church. The donation
was accepted and a vote of thanks tendered Mr. Brinkman.

On May 29, 1899, the trustees adopted plans for a new church parsonage.

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THE MASTERPIECE IS"SALUS MUNDIS"

Artist Thaddeus Von Zukotynsk's Majestic Painting Over The High Altar

Above the majestic altar, living in its vividness Thaddeus Von Zukotynsk has painted a marvelous masterpiece.

In the center of the picture, with the clouds forming a restless background, which looks as though it might fade away, and reveal heaven itself, is painted the Christ, on whose countenance, the artist, with deft fingers, has blended a sublime grandeur, and with infinite love in so subtle a manner that in one can exclaim: "Yes, it is truly "God-like". Behind that August figure a cross, wonderfully luminous, forms radiant halo. His right arm slightly raised, stillteaching those he loved so well, is the sentiment, while in his left hand He holds the books with the Alpha and Omegathe beginning of the end. Seated on the globe, at his feet; resting the allegorical figures of St. Mark and St. Luke, the picture of the Christ is complete.

To the right of Jesus His mother kneels in adoration with hands clasped in ecastacy. To the left is John the Baptist, rudly clad, bearing the banner of the "Ecco Homo"

Then farther to the right are painted the four great prophets. Nearest to Christ is oratorical Daniel, his right hand raised in prophecy.

By his side is Ezekiel, hard visaged, accustomed to all the horrors of exile, where he solaced his unfortunate countrymen during their captivity. Then is the drepressed, lamenting, Jeremiah, and lastly Isaih, pensive, his hand raised argumentavely. To the right of Christ, occupying relatively the same position as the prophets,

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are the four great fathers of the church. Nearest to the central figure, is St. Ambrose, his whole soul aflame by the presence of Christ. Next to him is his friend and pupil, St. Augustine, the convert of his mother, Monica. Then Hieronymous, silent and thoughtful, after which the artist painted Gregory 1, who composed the Gregorian chants.

Then came the angels, bearing all the instruments; to the right a group of three carry the terrible crown of thorns, the cruel nails, the sharp edged lance. At the left the group bear the hideous whipping-post--the blood scourge.

In looking at the picture one reads the artists soul. The whole conveys an idea of great grief suddenly supplanted by an intense joy. The Savior has risen and Christ's sufferings are over.

### ARTIST ZUKOTYNSKI

On April 1, 1855, Thaddeus Von Zukotynski was born on his father's country estate in Pedolia, southern Russia. His studies commenced in Odessa in 1871. In 1878 he entered the Academy of Arts in Munich. As the most promising pupil of the illustrious professors, Banzur, Gabl, Wagner and Carl Von Piloty, he merited and received the highest prizes given at the academy. In 1886 he finished several panoramos familiar to art-loving people, "The Storming Of Atlanta," and his far famed "Crucifixion of Christ", which are among the works made famous by Mr. Zukotynski's rare art.

The artist's name is familiar to the people of two continents.

His works are distinguishable from those of other artists because

of their masterful technique, their astounding accuracy of detail



and the resplendant and soothing harmony of color effect. The alacrity whith which the American people recognize the merits of Mr. Zukotynski's art discountenances the opinion European critics so frequently express in saying Americans are slow to recognize what is truly artistic.

It is to be hoped that this talented artist will long be able to give the world the benefit of his genius.

#### A DRUIDING ARCHITECT

Died Last February And Was Succeeded By W. H. Nouss Of The Druiding Company

The enriched Romanesque style if St. Benedict's church, together with the colossal dome towering boldly into the air from the
interseption of transepts and nave, and the two side towers clean
cut and sharp, but perfectly symmetrical, give the whole building great strength of character and an air of solidity and stability
of grandeur.

The towers are constructed on bases of bold rock-faced stone, which tapers gradually with massive avenues of the same material to the cornice line, where the enriched windows and permanent plasters extend to the base of the main gable, where they recede gracefully behind five turrets which again harmonize with the style of the dome. Each of the towers rise fifty feet above the ridge level and 125 feet above the level of the street.

At the entrance the main door is more pronounced than the side doors in as far as the heavy brick pilasters support a special gable. The arch itself is much strengthened in character by its resting in two dwarf stone columns.

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The stone collande extending across on both sides adds greatly to the enrichment, while the huge rose window, with its minimum diameter of seventy one feet, the keystone of the Romanesque, in which it is enclosed, rises to the base of the main gable. On either side the transepts are well set off by the immense rose windows, collonade confessional niche, turrets, gable windows, etc. The sanctuary wall rises ninety feet into the air so that any one viewing the structure from any standpoint cannot help but admire its architectural beauty.

The height of the nave is sixty feet. The front has a width of seventy-six feet. The entire length of the building is 130 feet. The transept is 120 feet wide.

In addition to drawing the plan for the church Architect Druiding also designed the pews, altars, the organ case and all the interior fixtures.

Adolphus Druiding, architect of St. Benedict's church, who died last February, was born May 28, 1838. He was the youngest son of an eminent physician in Aschendorf province of Hanover, Germany, a rigorous worker, who determined that his youngest son should have a most liberal education. At a very early age A. Druiding was sent to the Lyceum school, a commercial institution in Poppenburg, where he was much liked by his professors. Later the young man became a student at the Polytechnic school in Munich, where he became distinguished for his marvelous proficiency in mathematics. After graduating from the school with the highest honors which the school awarded Mr. Druiding studied diligently under a celebrated French architect after which he entered the government service under Minister Thorbacke. He erected several buildings in Arnheim, after

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which he came to America to seek a new field for his labors.

His career in this country was phenominally brilliant. Innumerable churches and ecclesiastical buildings scattered throughout
the land speak eloquently of his architectual genius, while his
great zeal and his earnest devotion to all clients, together with
a simplicity of nature, frankness and uprightness, have made him
beloved by all those who have had personal dealings with him.

After Mr. Druiding's death February 19, 1899, Mr. William H. Nouss, assumed entire control of the building of St. Benedict's church. Mr. Nouss is the gentleman of whom Mr. Druiding was glad the to say, "I have utmost confidence in the honesty, ability, and sixteen long years he has given me such faithful service. I cannot praise his commendable actions too much. I placed the construction of St. Benedict's in his hands because I was positive of his ability to carry the work through. If I were to die and neither of my two sons were old enough to care for the business in which I take so much pleasure, it is my wish that Mr. Nouss give it his undivided care."

In accordance with Mr. Druiding's wish, Mr. Nouss is now President and Treasurer of the A. Druiding & Company (Inc.) firm. Under his skillful management the corporation is in a flourishing condition.

## OTHERS OF THE BUILDING BOARD

Joseph Frisz, vice-president and treasurer of the building committee that had charge of the erection of the new church was born September 28,1843, in Lorraine, then a part of France. Joseph Frisz was not quite three years old when his parents came to this

St. Benedict's--Others Of The Building Board From Evening Gazette--June 17, 1899
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country locating in Jennings County, Indiana, where his youthful years were spent, On September 15, 1868, he married Miss Margaret Rolles, removing to Zanesville, Ohio, and thence to Bowling Green Ky., which he made his home for four years, and then to Hopkinsville, Ky., after which he came to Terre Haute, where he has since lived. In 1873, he embarked in the retail grocery business at Thirteenth and Chestnut Streets, erecting his present substantial building in 1885, with an addition in 1889. Mrs. Frisz, wife of the subject of this sketch, died May 7, 1891. She was born in Prussia, but came to America with her parents while quite young, growing to womanhood in Jennings county. She was an exemplary Christian woman and devoted to the church, leaving a family of seven children as follows: Lena M. wife of John E. Cox, Terre Haute: Jacob W. residing at Los Angeles, Cal., Margaret K., George B., Joseph A., Clara M., and Fred J. Mr. Frisz is active in church work, serving as president of St. Francis's Benevolent Society, besides being a member of a number of secular institutions. Mr. Frisz gave valuable assistance and counsel as vice-president and treasurer of the building committee.

#### JOHN DOMMERSHAUSEN

John Dommershausen, a member of the building committee, is a native of the province of Hesse Nassau, Germany, born in Prath on September 5, 1848. His parents were both natives of the above province, where they passed their lives and where they both lie buried in the old ancestral cemetery. John Dommershausen was educated in the old country and here learned the trade of bricklaying, which

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which he followed in his nature province until 1868, in March of which year he came to the United States, locating a short time hereafter in Terre Haute, which, with the exception of ten years has been his place of residence. He followed his chosen calling in this city until 1883, when he embardked in merchandising as a grocer at the corner of Fifteenth and Liberty Avenue. Amid the many demands on his time by thebusiness Mr. Dommershausen, ever mindful of h s religious duties and the church has no more consistent son than he. Since 1883 he has been a member of St. Benedict's parish as an active worker in the Society of St. Francis and as a member of the building society his counsel was much sought.

#### BRIEFLY TOLD -- WHO DID THE WORK

It took just three years to complete the church work after it was begun. The cost of the building, including the interior and the furnishings, is between \$140,000and \$150,000. 200,000red pressed brick were furnished by the Findly, Ohio, Pressed Brick Company, and Michigan brownstone furnished by O'Brien & Amberg, of Chicago, out of their own quarries in Michigan.

The general contract for the construction of the church was let to P. H. McCormack & Co., of Columbus Ind., who sub-let some of the contracts.

Edwards & Ward, of Chicago, did all the stone work.

Charles W. Abbott, of Terre Haute, did all the brickwork, both the pressed brick and the common brick.

Jacob Bennett & Sons, of Terre Haute, furnished the common brick, a million and a half in number.

St. Benedict's--Others Of The Building Board From Evening Gazette--June 17, 1899
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The copper and slate roof was furnished by Max Jennings, of Logansport, Indiana.

The electric wiring was in the hands of A. Frontzen & Co., of Chicago.

The furniture, altar, seats, pulpit, confessionals and communion rail were furnished by the Brunswick-Balke-Collender Company of Chicago.

The floor was laid by the Pickle Marble Company, of St. Louis.

The marble wainscotting, the marble baptismal font and the marble part of the three altars were put in by Sherman & Flavin, of Chicago.

The gas and electric light fixtures were made by Cassidy & Son, of New York.

The fine bronze font corner was made by J and R Lamb, of New York.

The great organ was made by W. W. Kimball & Co., of Chicago, and is one of the largest and finest ever made by that firm. A letter from Kimball & Co., on the completion of the organ says:

The organ is one that cannot be duplicated by any house in the business for less than \$14,000 or \$15,000 and we would not undertake to replace it for that figure."

All the statuary except the crucifixion group was made by one of the greatest artists of Europe--Schmiemans of Westphalia, Germany.

The painted windows are by another great artist Victor Vonderforst of Munster, Westphalia. The customes duty on the glass window was nearly \$2,7000.

The ornamental plastering was done by Bell & Mauch, of Chicago and cost \$5,000.



The curcifixion group in the middle altar was made by the noted sculptor, Joseph Sibbel, of 214 East 26th Street, New York.

The great painting over the middle altar was made by Thaddeus Zukotynski, of Chicago, formerly of Munich, at a cost of \$100 per figure or total of \$2,000.

The decoration painting was done by George Hefpfinger, a well-known artist of Milwaukee.

The bells were furnished by the Mendeley Bell Company of Troy, N. Y., and form a peal of the bells.

The large candlesticks were imported from Iserlohn, Prussia, and the smaller ones were furnished by Benziger & Co., of Cincinnati.

The concrete walks around the church and sidewalk were made by Ferdinand Giebel.

The Prox & Brinkman Manufacturing Company had the gas and steam heating contract.

Prof. Zobel Drew The Specifications For Organ

Prof. William Zobel of this city drew the specifications from which the Kimball Company built the great organ, and who gave Mr. Hulman from time to time the benefit of his ripe experience, is generally recognized as one of the finest musicians in the west. He is the son of John A. and Barbara (Rohe) Zobel, natives of Germany, who came to New York when quite young. Prof. Zobel was born in N.Y.C., where he received the early part of his education in public and private schools. He studied at St. Benedict's College, then in this city and returned to New York for more training. He again ame to Terre Haute and taught music for some time. Later on he went to Leipzig, Germany and attended the Conservatory of Music and also studied privately with the best masters. After

St. Benedict's--Prof. Zobel Drew Specifications From Evening Gazette--June 17, 1899
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finishing his studies there he went to Vienna, Florence, Naples, Rome and Paris to study. He then returned to Terre Haute and has been teaching ever since. He was organist for several years at St. Stephen's Episcopal Church and later at St. Benedict's. He has an organ and piano studio in the Rose Dispensary Bldg., and has also classes in musical science.

#### FRANK PROX

Frank Prox one of the members of the building committee for St. Benedict's, was born in Papinburg, province of Hanover, Germany, May 18, 1840. At an early age he learned the trade of coppersmith and continued to work at this trade till he was 27 years of age when he came to the United States, remaining inCincinnati for some time.

In 1869 he came to Terre Haute taking the position of Supt. of the McGregor Distillery, then the property of Herman Hulman, which position he held for six years. He left the distillery to enter the gas fitting and plumbing business with D. W. Watson, under the firm name of Watson & Prox. This partnership was dissolved in about 2 years, Mr. Prox retiring and starting up at 677 Main Street. Mr. Prox soon found his quarters too small so he built a place at 18 and 19 North Ninth. Again he was compelled to enlarge and he took in also 21-23-and 25 North Ninth. The rapid growth of business again compelled Mr. Prox to look for larger quarters and he then formed partnership again under the firm name of Prox and Brinkman, Manufacturing Company, moving further up on Ninth to the present large quarters. The change of business was made

Mr. Prox was married at Cincinnati October 6, 1868 to Miss Agnes Middondorff, also a native of Germany, but who moved to Cincinnati with her family when but only a child. There were three children-Herman, Anton and Theodore. Mr. Prox is a leading member of St. Benedict's. The received military training in Germany, serving in the regular army. Mr. Prox is an inventor of considerable note, having invented one of the best steam and hot water

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heating appliances on the market. The institution of which he is the head is one of the largest institutions of its kind in the west.

# ANTON HARING

Anton Haring, member of the building committee was born in Holland June 11, 1861, emigrating to this country in 1880. He started at the carpentry trade and has been a successful contractor of this city for the past 14 years.

He was married to Miss Mary Schumaker in 1886 and they have seven children.

t. Benedict's--Decorative Work
ring Gazette
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# COLORS BLEND IN DECORATIVE WORK

St. Benedict's church owes much of its soothing beauty to the artistic soul of Mr. George Hepfinger, of Milwaukee. The whole composition bespeaks the most delicate taste, a perfect conception, of color effect. Every little nook and corner has been executed with the greatest care and the finest precision.

## ELECTRIC WIRING IS FIREPROOF

The system of lighting in St. Benedict's is a fireproof system. The wires being run in continuous iron conduits from the switch-board to each group of lights. The conduits are so arranged that all wires may be removed and replaced without injury to decorations or disarranging the conduits. An important feature, from a stand-point of economy, is the alternate switching of the lamps, giving a brilliant or subdued light as desired. A pretty effect is produced in the ceiling by the lamps peeping through small openings from their hiding places back of the plaster. This was Mr. Hulman's idea and carried out by the contractors. The lamps are arranged to assist in decorating as well as illuminating the church. By the use of frosted lamps extreme brilliancy was prevented. T. H. Pattenbury, of the Arthur Frantzen Company of Chicago, who personally installed the work in the church, is at present installing a plant in the Soldier's Home in Danville, Illinois.

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Community Affairs The

\*. Benedict's --Noted Sculptor ing Gazette 9, 1899 2 (continued)

# A NOTED SCULPTOR'S BEAUTIFUL WORK

The genius of sculpture confers immortality upon the artists who work in clay and stone.

The crucifixion is by the iistinguished sculptor Joseph Sibbel, of New York, and represents the blessed Virgin Mary and St. John the Divine at the foot of the cross on which our Lord died. The moment of the death is the time chosen by the artist for the expression of the conception. The strife is over; the mortal agony has closed; the form hangs lifeless on the shameful cross; the agonized mother stands in an attitude of prayer. St. John stands with folded hands looking upward at the dear Lord whose last words to him were the committal of the Virgin to his protection. The group possesses rare artistic qualities in conception and execution and is remarkable for breadth of treatment in the purest school of eccliseastical art. The statues are six and one half feet high, executed in white marble cement, tinted in old ivory color, and represent the long and careful elaboration of the conceptions by the sculptor.

Mr. Sibbel is a native of Westphalia, Germany, where he was educated preparatory to his long study of art in the principal art centers of Europe. Mr. Sibbel opened his studio in New York in 1881 and from that time has been engaged in executing the most important art commissions for churches carried out since that period.

Among a few of Mr. Sibbels famous sculptures for churches are four historic figures in Carrara marble in St. Joseph's Seminary, New York; Isaac Joques, a Jesuit missionary killed by the Mohawk

St. Benedict's--Noted Sculptor Evening Gazette--June 9, 1899 Page 3 (continued)

Indians, 1646; Catherine Tegakuita, an Indian Virgin, who died for the faith in 1868 in New York state; St. Turibuis, of Lima, who founded the first theological seminary in the new world, and St. Roes, of Lima, the first American saint. Five sculptures by Mr. Sibbel are in the cathedrals of Chicago, New York, Hartford, Providence and elsewhere. He is now engaged in making some notably superb white marble groups and altars for St. Francis Xavier's Chruch, St. Louis, Mo., and many other works for church and public buildings. For some time during his early years in this country Mr. Sibbel was associated with the late Mr. Rebisse, sculptor in Cincinnati, where he modeled the statue of General McPherson which is in bronze, in Sandusky, Ohio. Visitors to the World's Fair will remember Mr. Sibbel's white marble statue of the most Rev. P. H. Feehan, Arch bishop of Chicago, which was then in the Educational building and which is now in St. Catherine's Hall, Chicago. This is considered one of the finest portrait statues in the world.

# \$27,000WAS THE BRICK CONTRACT

Charles W. Abbott, of this city, who had the brick contract, took the brick work as a sub-contract under P. H. McCormack & Co., for \$27,000. This included all the brickwork, both pressed and common. Mr. Abbott was on the contract a year including two months of a lay-offon account of the winter. There were 200,00 pressed bricks used in the contract besides 1,500,000 common brick, the latter being furnished by Jacob Bennett & Sons of Terre Haute.

St. Benedict's--Brick Contract Evening Gazette--June 9, 1899 Page 4 (continued)

The common brick was used for the inside walls. On an average Mr. Abbott had 25 men working for him. It was one of the longest ladder climbs for a hod carrier ever used in this city, it being 65 feet high. The elevator could not be used because there was nothing to elevate on, there being nothing but a straight wall. Not a workman was hurt on either the stone or brick contract, or, in factany whereabout the building. The red pressed brick was made by a special mould for this contract by the Findlay Company. A peculair thing about the church is that there is not a single square brick corner in the whole building, wither inside or outside. All the brick corners are round. "This was Mr. Hulman's idea", said Mr. Abbott, "the object being to preserve the corners so they could not be knocked off and so as to keep the inside plastering and decorating thoroughly in tact. I never saw a building of its size built all with round corners, and I must say Mr. Hulman's idea was a very good one."

Mr. Abbott is receiving compliments on his brick work. A gentleman from New York who was here last week said, "It is one of the best jobs I ever saw and is the finest church I was ever in although I have travelled all over the country."

# SCHIEMANNS FINE SCULPTURE

Practically all the statues in the church are by A. Schiemann, one of the best sculptors of Europe, who lives at Munster, Westphalia.

The Piesta, which stands in the north niche as one enters the church, is regarded by many as the greatest work of art in the church.

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St. Benedict's--Fine Sculpture Evening Gazette--June 9, 1899 Page 5 (continued)

It represents the bleeding Jesus taken from the cross, with his mother holding Him in her arms. It is thrillingly life like. Mr. Schiemann also made the fourteen stations of the cross. They are also marvels of his art. In addition Mr. Schiemann made the statue of St. Benedict, which stands on its elevated position in the front of the church. This statue is nine feet high.

Notes taken from Terre Haute Daily Express concerning St. Benedict's Dedication Ceremonies

Saturday June 17, 1399

REFERENCELATE

DO NOT CIRCULATE

THE DEDICATION NEAR

St. Benedict's Being Decorated For The Great Occasion

St. Benedict's Church Will Be Completely Decorated For the Services
Of The Dedication, Which Will Take Place Tomorrow

All day vesterday Fred Heinl, Charles Trout, and several assistants were hard at work covering the front of the Church in the evergreens and chrysanthemums. All the niches are filled with green and the arches of pine wreathes hang across the entrance. The work of decorating of the interior has not yet been completed, but the general plan of decoration is much the same as that carried out on the exterior of the building. The Chandeliers will be hung with wreaths and the alcoves in which the two lesser Altars stand, will be banked with flowers and plants. The space around the baptismal will be heaped with palms and ferns. Great care will be taken to hide none of the beauties of the edifice, and the stations in bas relief in the walls, representing the scenes of the Crucifixion, will be exposed to view. The High Altar will be left in its beautiful simplicity and only a huge bunch of lillies harmonizing with the pure white of the marble, to enhance its splendor.

Sunday will be a gala day in the hisotry of St. Benedict's. It least 15000 visitors will arrive from other cities. From points as far distant as Fort Wayne and Louisville they will come to witness the dedication of the most beautiful Church in the western states. Special trains will be run from Danville, Attica, Fort Wayne, Louisville, Evansville, and intervening points. Catholic Clerg- will be present from all over Indiana and many from adjoining states. Priests high in the service of the Church will assist in the dedication of St. Benedict's and in the other services of the day. Sunday will be the greatest Catholic holiday that Terre Haute will ever see.

The celebration of the occasion will begin at 7 o'clock Sunday. From 7 to 10 o'clock the actual ceremony of the dedication will be performed. During the services the great doors will be closed, and only the priests will be present.

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Notes take from Terre Haute Daily
Express concerning St. Benedict's
Dedication Ceremonies Page 2, continued

Bishop Janssen and the Abbot of St. Meinrad will officiate at the dedication, assisted by many of the other clergyment. At 10 o'clock the Church will be thrown open for the celebration of High Mass. The huge organ will be played by a famous organist from one of the Louisville Churches. The Reverend Louis Miller, Provincial from Syracuse, will deliver the sermon. The different Catholic Societies will form a procession at 2 o'clock in the afternoon and march through the streets of Terre Haute. The services of the day will be concluded by vespers.

# June 19, 1899

#### DEDICATED TO GOD

St. Benedict's Church Is Now Consecrated

Imposing Ceremonies Attend Dedication of the Noble Edifice to the Divine Service

Pontifical High Mass Is Held

Bishop Janssen Celebrates Sacrament

High Dignitaries of the Catholic Church Assist In Services Of The Day

Thousands Of Visitors Present

Catholic Societies Parade Streets

Herman Hulman, The Munificent Doner, At Last Sees St. Benedict's Completed,

At the cermonial of the Roman Catholic Church and amid solemn chants of the many priests, St. Benedict's Church was yesterday consecrated to the Holy Purpose for which it was intended.

At 10 o'clock/Bishop Janssen, accompanied by many of the clergy of TerreHaute and many other cities, all attired in full ecclesiastical robes and insignia, emerged from the door in the north trancept of the Church and moved in slow procession around the corner of the building to the front entrance, chanting the while. In front of the central door a body of the Catholic Knights of America was drawn up to keep the crowds from surging into the Church.

When the group of priests stood before the open foor the venerable Bishop Janssen in the center, the Knights with drawn swords surrounded them and formed a guard of honor

Notes taken from Terre Haute Daily
Express concerning St. Benedict's
Dedication Ceremonies. Page 3. continued

while the ceremony of dedication was being married out. Preceded by the youthful Gross Bearer, the priests then moved slowly up the middle aisle, through the open gates of the Altar Rail to the great Altar itself.

After delivering his episcopal blessings, Bishop Janssen lead the procession around the walls, sprinkling the parts of the edifice within his reach with holy water. When this ceremony was completed, the work of the dedicationwas at an end, and the event to which the members of St. Benedict's congregation had looked forward to so long was at an end.

The consecration of the Church before the central door, formed a beautiful and impressive scene. The gorgeously dressed priests, surrounded by a hedge of drawn swords were the center of interest, and toward them all eyes were directed. Outside the armed escort of the clergy, surged and pressed the eager crowd, impatient to gain admittance to the beautiful interior of the Church. Above all, a stern and massive bacground, rose St Benedict's, decked out for the occasion in gala array. Long festoons of pine wreathing hung across the font of the Church, and at regular intervals the green was interspersed with beautiful chrysanthamums. The decoration was not profuse enough to hide any of the beauty of architecture, but merely added a softened touch to the severity of the stone and brick work.

The ceremony of dedication was all that most exacting members of the congregation could have asked. The presence of the high dignitaries of the Church added splendor to the occasion, the crowds of visitors from other cities showed that the Church of St. Benedict's is known throughout the length of Indiana, and the beauty of the day left nothing to be desired. The dedication of the Church was an impressive performance of a most beautiful ceremony, symbolic of the high purpose to which St. Benedict's is hereafter of all time to be devoted.

Throng of Visitors

Terre Haute filled with drowds from other cities. Dense throngs packed the streets from surb to curb at the corner of Ninth and Ohio yesterday morning long befre

Notes taken from Terre Haute Daily Express concerning St. Benedict's Dedication Ceremonies. Page 4. continued

the Roors of St. Benedict's were opened for the celebration of the Pontifical High Mass. When 10 o'clock, the hour set for the opening of the Church arrived, the vrowd before the building was so dense that those on the outskirts gave up all hopes of entering and many left before the services began. The Church was filled to overflowing at each of the services of the day, the High Mass in the morning and Vespers in the afternoon. A conservative estimate places the number of visitors from other cities at between six and seven thousand. This could readily be believed when the densly packed crowds around the entrance of the Chruch were seen, after the entire seating capacity of the immense edifice had been taxed to its utmost.

Not only Catholics, but members of every denomination were in the city, drawn by the far-spread report of the wonderful beauties of St. Benedict's. Catholic Societies were present in full force from Evansville, Logansport, Vincennes, and many other cities of Indiana. Terre Haute put on a gala appearance in honor of the festal occasion, and the crowds and decorations brought memories of the recent encampment to mind. The citizens of Terre Haute displayed their interest in the new Church of St. Benedic 's by swelling the crowds both at the services in the Church and along the line of march of the parade. During the procession of various Catholic Societies, Main Street was lined with people, and it was almost impossible to make one's way through the packed throngs on the sidewalks.

The hotels and restaurants did a ruching business all day vesterday. Guests began to arrive early in the morning and pages of hotel registers were quickly filled. All the places of amusement had provided amply for the accommodation of the fisitors and no one left Terre Haute yesterday complaining of inhospitality.

No trouble was experienced by the police department in thing care of the big crowds. Full protection was furnished to the visitors and there was a noticeable lack of pickpockets, who usually gather at such meetings. Only one incident that caused any excitement occurred during the day. While the High Mass was being sole-brated, the alarm of fire was sounded and the drucks from number 5 swung out of the

Notes taken from Terre Haute Daily
Express concerning St. Benedict's
Dedication Ceremonies. Page 5. continued

engine house into Ninth Stree and turned west on Ohio. The street at this point was full of people at the time and it is only by amiracle that someone was not badly hurt. As it was the crowd scattered in a lively manner, assisted by the efforts of patrolment.

The large/delegation of visitors hesterday arrived from Evansville, more than 1500 strong. As many came in on the Logansport Division of Vandalia, more than a thousand from Indianpolis, and at least 600 on the Big Four special from Mattoon.

# Blessing The Altar

Ceremony of Consecration performed behing closed doors.

The bells of St. Benedict's pealed forth in silvery tones at 7 o'clock yesterday morning, but not for the purpose of bringing worshiper together in the Church. The bells announced the beginning of the ceremony of Consecrating the High Altar to the service of God, a ceremony that is always performed behind closed doors, with none present but the clergy. Before 7 o'clock arrived, all the priests who were to assist in the Consecration of the Altar had entered the side door of the Church, and for three hourse they remained within the walls, praying before theAltar and following the ritual of the Church for such ceremonies. At 9:30 o'clock the bells rang again this time to announce the a proaching ceremony of dedication. It was not until the stroke of ten that the procession of priests filed out of the north door of the Church, and the Consecration of the Altar was completed. The group of clergy marched to the front of the Church where, before the central door, the ritual of dedication

and the second of the second second

### Pontifical High Mass

was performed.

Celebrated At St. Benedict's by Bishop Janusen

Pontifical High Mass was celebrated at St. Benedict's Sunday Morning at 10 o'clock immediately after the consecration of the Church. After the solemn procession around the interior of the building had been made, the party of priests, still headed by Bishop Janssen, entered the Sanctuary Before the Altars. A throne covered by a

Notes taken from Terre Haute Daily
Express concerning St. Benedict's
Dedication Ceremonies, Page 6 continued



rich canopy of scarlet was placed on the richt of the three middle Altars, and upon this the Bishop took his seat, surrounded by the assistant priests and acolytes. After the preliminary genuflections the service, according to the ritual prescribed by the Catholic Church, had been finished the celbration of the Sacrament of the Mass was begun. From beginning to end it was a beautiful and impressive service. the robes of the priests contrasted richly with the pure whitness of the Altars, and the soft light of the waxen candles shed a subdued glow over the scene. The choir showed training and breat strength in ensemble work, and the responses in the Mass were sung with fervor and with feeling, while the rich tones of the organ thundering grandly throughout the building from foundation to dome formed a musical background that rendered the voices of the singers still more sympathetic and beautiful. In the interval of the Mass, the sermon of the morning was preached in the German language by the Very Reverend Louis Miller of Syracuse, provincial of the fathers of the Order of Minor Conventuals.

Bushop Janssesn was the celebrant of the Pontifical High Mass, and his assistant was Vicar General Sheidler of Indianapolis. The deacons of honor were Fathers

Faller, of New Albany, and Francis of Indianapolis, While the deacon and sub-deacon of the Mass were Father Oechtering of Fort Wayne and Father Anthony of St. Joseph's.

Father O'Connell of St. Mary's acted as Master of Ceremonies. All these were assisted by Father Benedict, also of St. Meinrad's and Father Schnell of St. Patrick's. Other priests within the Sanctuary during the celebration of the Mass were: Father Hugalinus, rector of St. Joseph's College, Teutopolis, Ill; Father Keene of Logansport; Father Riehle of St. Mary's; Father Jerome of Louisville; Father Saveline Szabo of Louisville; Father Liesen of St. Ann's Orphanage; and Father Zaller, pastor of St. Benedict's new Church.

A choir of more than thirty voices rendered Weber's Mass in G. In addition to the regular choir of St. Benedict's were the male quartette from Louisville and Miss Roslyn Febrenbach, the well known soprano, who lives in Terre Haute but has been studying music in Chicago for some time.



Monday, June 19, 1899

## ST. BENEDICT'S DEDICATED

A Beautiful Day For The Dedication Of The Great Church and An Immense Crowd

Thousand Visit The Church

Dedication Mass In The Morning and Pontifical Vespers In The Afternoon Sermons By Fathers Miller and O'Donaghue

An Imposing Street Parade

The Uniformed Bodies Made A Fine Appearance
All Eyes Delighted With The Windows Of The Church

A more beautiful day could scarcely have been made to order for St. Benecict's dedication day. The sun shone brightly and it was not too hot and the thousands of strangers who came to Terre Haute to see the magnificent Church found all the conditions favorable for the event. As nearly as the train records show, 7,000 strangers were brought here by the railroads. 5,226 passed through the Union Depot and about 1,500 through the Big Four Depot.

The ceremonies were carried out as outlined in Saturday's Gazette. The formal dedication of the Church occurred from 7 till 9:30. Bishop Janssen officiating. None but the clergy being admitted to this service. At 10 o'clock, after the clergy had made a circuit of the edivice, reciting the prayers for the occasion, the doors were opened and the public was admitted. To the great majority of the strangers, this was the first sight that they had of the magnificent interior and many exclamations of delight were heard after their eyes had began to take in the majestic beauty of their surroundings. The Church was packed to its utmost capacity in a short time and the arriving thousands found it impossible to obtain admission. The dedication Mass began soon after 10.

More on the names of the choir, visiting dignitaries, ets.

PITRLIC LIBRARY

Pictures on page 1 and page 5

Burning of Saint Benedicts.

The church was 34 years old and was built by McCormick & Company with Edward B. Ferrell as superintendent of the construction. The builder did not live to be it destroyed, he died April 30, 1930; he came from Columbus, Indiana to work on the church. It took three years to build the church. The furnishings cannot be supplicated at any cost. The building was constructed of brick from Finley Hall.

The large decorative windows and statues were brought from Germany. The alter was carved by a European artist. It took a Milwaukee decorator Hepfinger, four months to decorate the building at the cost of \$100,000. The plans for the building were drawn by Adolphus Druiding, architectof Chicago, with W. H. Nouss as assistant architect.

Mr. Druiding, his partner died, and he took over (Druiding died, Autumn, 1898)

The large bronze statue of St. Michael which was the outstanding feature of the church was completely destroyed being one of the first parts of the building to fall. The statue was donated by the late Herman Hulman, Sr., father of Anton Hulman and Herman Hulman of this city. It was volued at \$25,000 and made of bronze and weighed 5 tons. Some of the beautiful stained glass windows were donated by the first trustees of St. Benedicts ------ Frank Prox, John F. Brinkman, August Fox, Ernest Bleemen, and Herman Hulman, Sr. The cornerstone was laid Sunday, October 4, 1896. In 1928 it was remodeled costing \$100,000. This church was the second St. Benedicts church to be built on this site. The first was built in 1865 and was the first German speaking. Catholic church in the city. It was built under the direction of the Benedictine fathers. The school and parish house were built shortly after the first church was completed.

Sever 1 Terre Haute residents recalled last night the formal opening of the St. Benedicts Church on July 18, 1899. Special trains were run from surrounding cities and towns to the opening of the church, at which time the Ringgold band was featured. Many citizens of the city have badges which were cast with the date of the opening

REFERENCE NOT CIRCULATE

Community Affeirs Fi



and distributed among those attending the opening.

Many recalled the early building of the church when the late Herman Hulman, who was the main donor, went to Europe visiting the fine old churches across the sea and brought home with him idea's which he communicated to the architect, who embodied them in the fine church which has stood for so many years as a monument to Mr. Hulman's memory.

The parish was not a particularly rich one in those days and parishioners took out building and loans it is said, to assist in building their church. Indeed the beautiful church was built with love and with sacrifice.

During the blazing of the flames on the towers the bell range several times, either from the finning of the fire or the force of the water-and the crowd shuddered at the erie sound as the bell tolled out its message, a message which has called the perishioners to worship, to weep and to rejoice with those who mourned, or were happy in marriage.

Through the portals of the church Herman Hulman, the moving spirit of the building was carried for his last service, the old bell tolled then and it has repeated it many times before and since, but never under the circumstances when it rang forth yesterday.

St. Benedicts church was more than a religious edifice, it was an inspiration, it was the sight seeing place of the city....because there were few churches in this section built as that was. There was no make believe about it.

Built before the period when steel reinforcing had arrived into general building, the laying of the brick was car fully scrutinized by the builders...workmen being every minute under supervision, and even the turrets, built in columns on the corners were so carefully laid that in spite of the terrific blaze which melted the solid sheet copper which covered them, stood and did not topple over into the crowd below, as many ferred. The wells stood also with the flames raging inside, in fact the burning was almost spectacular as the blaze w s confined within the wells excepting that of the roof.

of Centenary, read the following short interfrom Dr. S. B. Towne, of Green-castle, Ind., whose fruitful labors are yet fruit in the minds of all the members. Dr. Towne and wife were expected to be with the church on this occasion but were prevented by unforseen causes. The letter is given below:

My Dear Brethren: 8

I would send you a message of love and cheer. My own pastorate is so near that I dare not say very much lest I may seem to boast of work in which I was myself a participant. However I can freely congratulate you on the very great growth and prosperity which have marked the whole of the 25 years past, and more particularly the past year and a fraction. No one among you has a happier heart over the success which has attended your labors in the last 14 months than I have. God bless you and make every year of the next 25 greatly better than any of its predecessors. 2 Thess. 3: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5.

Very cordially your friend and brother, S. B. Towne.

SATURDAY'S EXERCISES.

In the afternoon an "old saints' meeting" was largely attend d. Col. T. C. Buntin presided and Col. R. W. Thompson delivered a brief address.

The historical service was held in the evening beginning at 7:30 o'clock. After the choir had rendered some very delightful music, with Oscar Sarader, organist, the Rev. Wm. Graham D., rend an oble paperon "Early Methodism in Terre Haute." A large abstract will be given tomorrow.

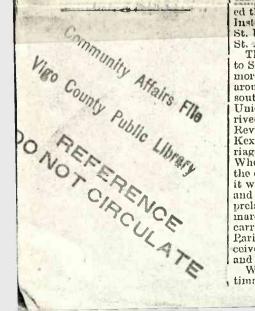
# REV. JOHN A. BLAIR.

A Crawfordsville Minister Accepts a Call to the Washing-

terian Church.

Rev. John A. Blair, of Crawfords-ville, has been called to the pastorate of the Washington Avenue Presbyter-church. A few days ago the congregation of the church by a unanimous vote extended a call to Mr. Blair and a letter of acceptance was received from him by Mr. S. C. Stimson this afternoon,

The Rev. Blair is a young man of brilliant attainments who recently graduated from Union Benninary, New York. He has filed the pulpit of the Washington Avenue church for several babbaths and gave excellent satisfaction. He will enter upon his charge in this city at once.



OCTOBER5, 1896 60

A BIG CELEBRATION

The Laying of the Corner Stone of St. Benedict's Church.

# THE PARADE A LARGE ONE.

Contents of the Stone-- Facts of Interest Concerning the New Building--The Visitors.

Sunday, October 4th, 1896, will long be remembered as the greatest, day in the history of the Catholic church in Terre Haute, for on Sunday, was laid the corner stane of St. Benedict's church which is to be one of the finest and best apportioned edifices of its, kind, in the state. In architectural beauty, it will be the equal of what are considered among the finest Catholic churches in this country and will compare favorably with the cathedrals of Europe.

with the cathedrals of Europe.

The day was one of perfect beauty for the occasion, the bright; sunsnine, the delightful breeze and the endusiasm of the assembled growds, were tricical, of the happiness and religious fervor, that will be embedied in the new church. Old citizens say that it was just such a day of bright autumnal beauty on which the corner stone of the old building was laid the first Sunday of October,

The time of the parade had been anxiously awaited by thousands of Terro. Haute's citizens—the members of the various Catholic societies who were to participate and the hundreds of people who crowded the streets on the line of march, anxious to catch glimpses of the imposing parade with its uniformed bands and bright flags and banners floating over the heads of the marching columns. It has been estimated that there were twelve hundred men in line. Heading the parade was a platoon of police ander command of Captain Hyland. Then came Grand Marshal, Trierweiler, accompanied by his aides—M. Murphy, M. Brophy, E. O'Neil, Ed. Roach, W. Kivits, C. Cronin, M. Casey, M. Roach, W. Kivits, C. Cronin, M. Casey, M. Roach, F. Fehrenbach and W. Dorgan, all mounted on horseback and forming an enlivening scene. Following the Ringgold Band was the St. Francis Benevolent Society of St. Benedict's church.

Then in order came the Hibernian Benevolent Society, St. Joseph's Total Abstinence Society of St. Joseph's church, the four branches of the Ancient Order of Hibernians, Catholic Knights, the Oriental band which played the Y. M. I. march, the Young Men's Institute, Young Men's Literary Union, St. Patrick's Young Men's Society and

St. Anthony's Young Men's Society. The parade moved down Main street to Seventh, north on Seventh to Sycamore, east to Union station, marching around the beautiful park and thence south to the new church site. At the Union station Bishop Chatard, who arrived from Indianapolis, was met by the Rev. Fathers Scharoun, Frewin and Kexel and by them escorted to a carriage drawn by four snow white horses. When the head of the column reached the corner of Ninth and Walnut streets it was halted, the ranks were opened and the carriage bearing the honcred prelate passed between the lines. The marchers from the rear followed the carriage through. At St. Benedict's Parish House Bishop Chatard was received by the local and visiting priests and in a short time the services began.

When the marchers arrived it was estimated that there were 6,000 persons

sanding in the street around the foundation walls. The bishop appeared wearing the gorgeous cape, stole and mitre and carrying the golden crozier. He was accompanied by Rev. Fathers Ryves and O'Connor, who officiated as deacon and sub-deacon. These two priests were the alb and dalmatic. The other priests were only the surplice and cassock. Headed by seventeen altar boys, one of which carried a crucifix, the visiting and local clergy proceeded from the parish house to a cross which had been erected where the altar is to rest when the church is completed. Here the holy water was blessed and then the party took their station before the corner stone.

The lowering of the corner stone was celebrated with a preliminary service in Latin. Sharing the honors with the Bishop at the stone was Mr. Herman Hulman, Senior, whose generous donation of large sums has made it possible for St. Benedict's Society to build this handsome new edifice. It is probable that when the total amounts are footed up nearly one half of the building fund will have been donated by Mr. Hulman. It was therefore with a feeling of thanksgiving and pleasure that the assembled multitude watched the happy face of Mr. Hulman as he guided one seed into position.

The handsome block once in position Bishop Chatard went on with the ceremony. He took the builders trowel and scratched a cross on the face of the stone, after which he sprinkled it with holy water. This part of the ceremony ended, the Bishop and priests walked around the entire building and every few feet the prelate sprinkled it with water.

At the corner of the building a platform had been erected and the prescribed ceremony having been concluded Bishop Chatard mounted it and proceed to make a short address. As he came on the platform accompanied by the other priests St. he nedict's the choir rendered the beautiful "Veni Creator", the many voices adding inspiration to the impressive services.

The Bishop spoke mainly of matters pertaining to the church, though in his introductory remarks he spoke of the beautiful church that was soon to grace the spot on which he stood. He said in part: "Before I go into the affairs of the church I desire to say a word in commendation of the energy and self sacrifice on the part of this noble congregation in creeting this handsome edifice to the worship of Almighty God. I wish to thank those who so generously gave of their time and money that the exercises of this day might be possible. could montion names, but fearing lest I might affect the modesty of the givers I refrain : from doing so. I certainly hope the example set will be imitated by those who have not yet given;

"In giving always remember that it is to the cause of Christ and that it will bring a blessing on his children. Every edifice requires a stable foundation. If it has not thus the walls will spread and the people whose money went into the construction of the building will have been thrown away. We have a foundation in all things. In our societies the foundations are the constitutions which govern their workings. We must have a foundation in our spiritual boings. God is that foundation and is a solid foundation. Man makes mistakes, but God never does. He is the foundation on which we must build. Were he to withdraw his hand for an instant the heavens would shrivel up and disappear. We therefore look to the work of God to save humanity. This temple of God is built for that purpose. God has given us a foundation. It is Jesus Christ, the son of God. He is, the cornor stone. With this foundation the church will maintain its stability until the great trumpet sounds and we all are called home.

Bishop Chatard closed his remarks with the statement that it was his

ligious denomination under the sun.
He asked that all strive to do better and live faithful Christian lives.
When Bishop Chatard had finished his address a sermon in Commen user de-

When Bishop Chatard had finished his address a sermon in German was delivered by the Very Rev. Hugoline Storff, president of St. Joseph's College at Tentopolis, Ill. His address was one of eloquence and remarkable beauty of expression and was the subject of many complimentary remarks made by the auditors after the exercises were over.

During the exercises the Ringgold band rendered the beautiful program of church music which was published in Saturday's Gazette. At the close of the services St. Benedict's choir sang the "The Denn," in which the entire audience joined. It was a delight to hear Mr. Hulman's voice which is still strong and tuneful rising above the others around him.

THE CORNER STONE.

The beautiful corner stone is from the quarry at Lanse. Michigan, on Lake Superior. It was engraved by Purdy, a fine stone cutter, of Indianapolis. On the Ninth street side is the inscription: "D. O. M. St. Benedict Kirche. October 4, 1896. Deus Mens et Omnia", and on the front facing Ohio street: "Hace Ecclesia Ad Majorem Gloriam Electa Sub Invocasione Sancti Benedicti Dedicata Est."

In the cavity of the stone was placed a copper box twelve inches long, 8 inches wide and 10 inches high, containing the following articles: a twelve page history of the congregation and the new edifice to date, compiled by Father Scharoun; the document of the corner stone laying written on parchiment in Latin; the constitution of the United Stress in book form; a copy of the history of the Catholic church of Diocess of Vincennes; a copy of the register of each society connected with the church; a copy of the membership register of die church, a copy of the school register with the names of the teachers; a copy of each of the daily papers of the city, including a Gazette of Saturday, Oct. 3, containing a program of the corner stone laying, a cut of the new building, copies of three German church papers;

THE VISITING CLERGY.
At the close of Sunday's exercises Rev.
Scharoun entertained at dinner the following visiting priests: Father Schnell,
Ryyes, Joseph Kexel, Szabo, and Bras-

sard, of this city, and Father O'Connell, of St. Mary's, Father Simon of St. Moinard's, Father McLaughlin, of Groencastle, Father Maroney, of Marsahll, Father Bauer, of Rockville, Father Postner, of Paris and Father Hugoline Storff of Tentopolis.

Father Scharoun expressed himself as greatly pleased with the celebration and the interest awakened in every Catholio society of the city. He was assisted by friends on every hand. Mr. H. Katzenbach donated free all of the carriages needed for the occasion including the handsome carriage and four white horses tendered for the Bishop's service. Thanks is also due to Mr. Nisbet who offered the use of carriages, but were not heeded. Father Scharonn desires to be quoted as personally expressing his sincere appreciation of and hearty thank for the active cooperation of the various societies that participated in Sunday's celcbrities.

Among other aticles put in the corner stone were:

copper and silver coins of the United States of each denomination from 1 cent to 1 dollar; several medals; a copy of the city ordinances; a copy of the Declaration of Independence on parchment; photographs of Father Scharonn, the old church and prominent buildings of Terre Haute including a picture of Old Fort Harrison; letters addressed to the future generations written by Mayor Ress, Mr. H. Hulman, Mrs. Anton Intman, and several others; a bistory of

leys Charles Daugherty and James

Banns of marriage were called between the following couples: Paul Byrne Terhorst, Mary Elizabeth Baier; Waiter Flak, Anna Pulier; Charles Mulhearn, Anna Haggin; James Quinlan, Frances Rowe; Raymond Leonard, Maxine Scofield. The male choir of St. Joseph's Church made up of twelve voices

The male choir of St. Joseph's Church made up of twelve voices has received recognition for its fine singing of liturgical music and equally credited is the young ladies' choir. Miss Shirley Armstrong is organist and Frank Hanley is director.

# ST. BENEDICT'S HAS LONG

#### RECORD OF FAITHFUL SERVICE

Terre Haute's second oldest Catholic Parish is St. Benedict's, located at Ninth and Ohio streets. It was established in 1864 and grew from a small group of German Catholics who desired a church of their own.

Guiding the early destiny of this church were the Benedictine Fathers. The success of this church is largely due to the untiring labors of these

zealous priests.

The parish is now in charge of the Franciscan Fathers of the Order of Minor Conventuals, who have administered to the spiritual needs of their congregation for many years. The Very Rev. Leonard Reich, O. M. C., who served as pastor from 1889 to 1892, is still enjoying fair health at the age of 34. His residence is in Rensselaer, N. Y.

residence is in Rensselaer, N. Y.

Although misfortune, in the form of a conflagration, destroyed the interior of the beautiful edifice some years ago, the people and their paster rebuilt the church until new it serves one of the largest congregations in the city. A difficulty of long, standing has been the acoustical defect of the structure. Intelligible of the structure of the church of the past year an improvementation of voice sounds. During the past year an improvementation of a Messmer superpulpit. This patented acoustical pulpit, is equipped with a special saciality board of decorative cassettes, and electrical amplification consisting of microphone and amplification distributed in the pulpit. By the use of this instrument, both in pulpit and at the altar, maximum intelligibility has been achieved throughout the church.

The Rev. Theodore Eickholtz, O.M.C. is the present pastor of the church. Assisting him is the Rev. Lucian Harkins, O.M.C.

# ST. PATRICK'S CHURCH SCHOOL SERVES SOUTHEAST.

On Sept. 9. 1940, St. Patrick's Parochial School opened its doors to 225 pupils. Thereby began the fifty-ninth scholastic year with eighty-five more students than in the first opening of the school in 1882. Numbers of pupils, however, is scarcely a fair comparison to make between the time of the school's inception and its present status. For as the city has grown and changed in two generations, so likewise have parish boundaries been changed and in the status of St. Patrick's have been diminished. During other years of its existence its student body has totaled even more than two hundred and twenty-five.

The first parochial school building was erected for St. Patrick's Parish on a plot of ground adjoining the site bought for St. Pariston's Parish plant. The original building was erected to the east of the church at Thirteenth and Poplar by the Sisters of Providence. Dedicated in 1882, the building was devoted to the educational needs of Catholic children in the southeast section of the growing city. The Rev. Thomas Logan was pastor, succeeded by the Rev. D. J. McMullen in 1883, who was followed by the Rev. Victor Schnell in 1885.

After eight years increased at-

tendance rendered more space so imperative that Father Schnell erected another building and added to the old school. St. Patrick's High School was opened in 1993. It was continued and enlarged in the new building under the leadership of the Rew. James. Delaney in 1923.

Although its territory was les-

Although its territory was lessened by the erection of Saint Margaret-Mary's in 1921, yet Saint Patrick's grew in numbers; many of its families moved into the newly developed sections in the eastern part of the city. The center of population of the parish set itself east of the old location of the church. It became more inconvenient for the children to attend school at Thirteenth Street. The best interests of the parish required a more central location for its buildings.

In 1923 the Rev. James B. Delaney, who was appointed pastor in 1920, after the death of Father Schnell in 1919, purchased the extensive grounds from Nineteenth and Poplar, south to Oak Street. Here he planned the erection of the new Saint Patrick's. He erected the school in 1923 and the sisters' residence shortly after. But the combined circumstances of debt and depression left the erection of the church and rectory to a future generation. Father Delaney died in 1937.

The new school is a building of which the parish may well be proud. From 1923 to 1937 it housed the parish high school and grade school and now since 1937 houses the interprochial project, Central Catholic High School and Saint Patrick's grade schook Of Gothic architecture, the school is a fireproof structure, embodying all the features required by modern education in conformity with the state code. The main entrance to the building is from Nineteenth Street. There are other entrances, one at the north, and the other at the south of the building. The floors of the corridors and stairs are terrazza.

The first floor includes a gymnasium, kitchen and rooms designed for meetings. The upper floors are comprised of spacious corridors on either side of which are large well lighted classrooms. The administrative offices are on the second floor. A well stocked library is on the third floor. Here, too, besides four large classrooms is the children's chapel, instituted by the present pastor, the Rev. Dr. Fintan Walker, who succeeded Father Delaney in 1937. In the children's chapel every morning at 8 o'clock, the pupils have the privilege of attending divine services before starting the school work of the day.

All classrooms are ventilated with

All classrooms are ventilated with indirect unit ventilators. The equipment generally embodies the most progressive ideas in school access, sories. The primary department is

sories. The primary department is furnished in home-like style with tables and chairs. The classroom floors are finished natural, sealed and waxed. The Rev. Fintan Walker. Ph. R., is pastor and school superintendent. Sister Clementia is principal, assisted by the faculty, Sister Marle Monica, Sister Agnes Celeste, Sister Theresa Louise, Sister Mary Hilda, Sister Hermine. Sister Paula is in charge of the music department.

# ST. ANN'S CHURCH HISTORY DATES FROM RECORDS OF 1876.

The first entry in St. Ann's parish records is dated Aug. 10; 1876, and is over the signature of the Rev. M. Quinian, who on that day administered the first sacrament of haptism in the parish to John Cassedy. Father Quinlan was the first priest in charge of the nucellus of what was later to be the flourishing parish of St. Ann.

was later to be the Hourishing parish of St. Ann.

In March of the following year, 1877, the well remembered zealous and genial Ray. M. M. McEvoy of St. Joseph's Church was placed in charge of the Mission of St. Ann. and continued in the pastorate until October of 1878 when he was succeeded by the Rev. John McCabe, the first resident pastor of St. Ann's parish:

In August of 1885 Father McCabe was transferred to a parish in Davis County, Indiana, and was replaced by the Rev. John Ryves, coming from the pastorate of St. Mary's, Church, Richmond, Ind.

Father Ryves will long be remembered by all of the members of \$\frac{Sti}{Ann's}\$ parish, for during his long pastorate it grew to its present proportions. All of the present buildings, the church and school, the rectory, auditorium and Sisters' convent, replacing some of the older buildings, were built or acquired by Father Ryves. Father Ryves was a man of great mental gifts and an eloquent speaker who exercised a great influence upon the lives of his parishioners, and owing to his interest in civic affairs, upon the city at large. He was greatly beloved by he own flock and had many non-Catholic friends who admired his mental gifts, his genial and warm-hearted interest in his neighbors.

After completing the present auditorium, which was to be the foundation and basement of a greater edifice to be dedicated to the service of God under the patronage of St. Ann, his declining health forced him to resign his charge in the year 1923 after a long and useful pastorate of forty-three years. After his resignation he lived for four years among the people he had served so long and so faithfully.

The Rev. Joseph Duffy succeeded Father Ryves in July of 1928, but his pastorate was of short duration. He died March 7, 1932, four months before the death of his predecessor. Short as was his pastorate, it was long enough to cause deep sorrow at his passing. He, too, possessed those qualities of mind and heart of a great and good pastor and won the respect and love of all who knew him.

The present incumbent in the pastorate of St. Ann's parish, the Rev. Clement J. Thienes, succeeded Father Duffy, Sept. 1, 1932, coming from St. Margaret Mary's parish (Terre Haute) where he was pastor from the founding of that parish in 1920.

A debt of gratitude is due to the teaching order of the Sisters of Providence of St.-Mary-of-the-Woods, Indiana, from St. Ann's parish and from all of the other Catholic parishes in the city. These teachers have taught in the Parochial schools all the years these schools have existed. The high standing of our schools is due to

their efficient and zealous is St. Ann's Grade School has I children in attendance.

SACRED HEART CHURCH ... IS CENTER OF NORTH SIDE PARISH.

The place of the Sacred Heaparish among the established paishes of Terre Haute is not net to ahyone who has made a stu of its development, particularly recent development. The Sacred Heart parish is numerically a territorially the largest in Ter Haute.

The realization of the deam the Catholics of North Terre Hal came to pass when in 1972 his cellency, the late Bishop Charand, founded the parish of the Scred Heart. At that time players made for the erection of present combination building, chusch, school and parish hall. In the early part of the scholas

year the church properly underw a complete renovation. Work we begun first in the church. The tar was remodeled and made it gical. A new deep wine color wet drapery has been hung back it. An imitation canopy gives appearance of greater depth to niche in which the altar is play the panels at each side of the tar have been decorated and in center of each is an eight-day satuary lamp. The new carpet deeper in tone than the drapery, entire church has been painted two-tone light buff. The floors the benches have all been remaished. The radiators have be painted a light buff and each a mallogany-stained steel shi All the lights have been cleaned the fixtures gilded. The old it leum has been removed and in place there is a mottled gar brown inlaid linoleum inlaid squares. The entire school has painted on the inside and all woodwork revarnished.

It is of special interest to

the various organizations affiliated with the N. C. C. W. Catholication Movement. The High Science Students' Club, which is in real a Catholic Evidence Guild, has notable and interested members. The Young People's Club, which pre-eminently social, directs the terests and the entertainments the young people who are out high school and who have entered or who are engaged in business world.

The Ladies' Altar Society is

The Ladles' Altar Society is of the most useful organizations the parish. All the ladles of parish are eligible for members! The society has the privilege providing for the sanctuary sacristy needs. The periodic because provide the society with revenue needed for the upkeep the altar.

The Mothers' Club was foun in the Fall of 1939. Its members includes the mothers of the pres and the former pupils. The sc of the club is limited to activi for the financial benefit of school. Twice last year the Moers' club presented the sisters was check for \$50.

The St. Vincent de Paul Soci

The St. Vincent de Paul Soci which attends to the needs of poor in the parish, has done cree able work.

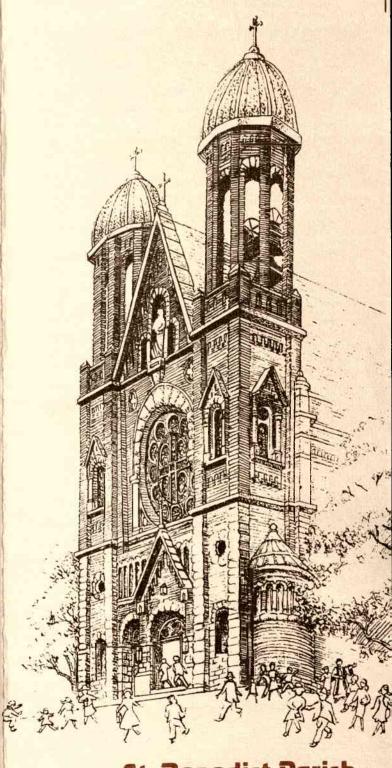
Lastly the parent organization all the Parochial Catholic Act Movements, the National Cou of Catholic Women, was organilast year and is functioning admands.

The Rev. James McBarron is



St. Benedict Parish

9th at Ohio Terre Haute, Indiana



St. Benedict Parish Terre Haute, Indiana



ith its twin towers as landmarks on the Terre Haute skyline since late in the nineteenth century, St. Benedict Church and its parishioners celebrate 125 years of service and devo-

tion as the twenty-first century nears. This brochure is offered in the hope that you will enjoy a short history of our parish and find pleasure in taking a brief walking tour of the church we love.

# A Brief History

Near the end of the Civil War, some German-speaking immigrants met in Terre Haute to establish a parish for the city's sizable German Catholic population. A cornerstone was laid in October, 1864, and early in 1865 the original building facing Ohio Street was blessed and dedicated as St. Benedict's.

First served by the Benedictine priests, the parish came into the care of the Franciscans in 1872. When it became apparent that the original structure needed to be replaced by a larger one, a building committee travelled to Quincy and Chicago. In Chicago the committee found a church whose style of architecture corresponded to what they had in mind. Created by the architect Adolph Druiding, the plan was a surprising departure from the German Gothic tradition for it featured a Romanesque design. Final plans approved by the committee in 1895 expressed the Teutonic heritage of the parish through two large towers with distinctive cupolas rising to 125 feet.



n the feast of St. Francis of Assisi, Sunday, October 4th, 1896, the cornerstone was laid for a cruciform structure 130 feet in length, with a nave 60 feet wide and a 120 foot transcept. Eighteen months

later, the general contractor handed the keys to the pastor and the work of decorating and furnishing the interior began.

The walls and ceiling were frescoed, the vault of the apse above the main altar was filled with a painting, "Salus Mundi," which depicted the Risen Christ in glory, and the high altar (similar to the one now in the

church) had a crucifixion group in the reredos with statues over six feet tall. The Kimball Company of Chicago manufactured the great organ and at the time it ranked among the largest church organs in the country. The three bells of St. Benedict's were blessed with the names *St. Francis* (the largest at 3,559 pounds), *St. Benedict* (1,822 pounds), and *The Blessed Virgin* (at 1,027 pounds).



inally, after three years of painstaking attention to detail, the church was blessed and dedicated. The dome of the massive structure was topped by a huge statue of St. Michael the Archangel, pro-

tector of the Church. At 6:00 a.m. on June 18th, 1899, the high altar was consecrated in a three hour Solemn Pontifical Mass.

The next thirty years saw continued growth for St. Benedict's. By 1930, the physical plant included the church, a school, a rectory, and a convent for the Sisters of Providence. In the years following World War I the parish flourished. Services attracted large attendance and the beauty of the liturgical functions was enhanced by the choir which was to become a parish tradition.



nd then disaster: at noon on Wednesday, July 30th, 1930 smoke poured from the great dome where painters were at work. Fire equipment, with great streams of water falling far short of their mark,

could not reach the dome where the fire was centered. As the great bronze statue of St. Michael crashed through the blazing roof to the basement below, the magnificent church was reduced to a smoldering heap. With only walls left standing, the splendid interior was completely devastated.

Phoenix-like, St. Benedict's rose from the fire's ashes. Though in the midst of the Great Depression of the '30s, parishioners decided almost immediately to rebuild. The walls and towers survived, so the building's exterior was altered little. In December of 1931, the church was again ready for use but economic realities had taken their toll: the great dome was not replaced nor was the interior so lavishly redecorated. The main

altar, similar in lines to the former, kept its majesty, and another mural of Christ in glory replaced the destroyed painting.



ith the emphasis of Vatican II on increased involvement for parishioners in their celebration of the liturgy, some interior alterations were made. In 1989 the major work was completed. The

sanctuary was extended by a thrust platform reaching beyond the former communion rail, and the Baptismal font was brought into the sanctuary. In addition, the tabernacle was moved from the reredos to the southeast corner of the transcept. The church was re-carpeted, the sound system was vastly improved, and appropriate lighting was added to complete the most recent phase in the growth of this beautiful building.

# A Walking Tour



tour of St. Ben's should begin in the vestibule through the main doors on 9th Street. Upon stepping in, please note the alcove to your right in the south wall. Two lovely pieces of statuary, a represen-

tation of the Sacred Heart of Jesus done by A. Schiemann and a reproduction by Joseph Sibbel of Michelangelo's *Pieta* (the Virgin Mary mourning the body of the dead Christ), invite reflection. Stand very close to the *Pieta*, look upwards above the statue, and you'll discover a special treat: a set of seven small, exquisite stained glass windows which present a Litany of Our Lady. From left to right they are Spiritual (or Holy) Vessel, Vessel of Honor, Vessel of Devotion, Mystical Rose, Tower of David, Tower of Ivory, and the House of Gold.

As you enter the church itself, first orient yourself to the architecture. The area extending from the swinging doors to the high altar is the nave. On the rear walls (to the right and left), are two statues, St. Anthony of Padua (to the right) and St. Francis of Assisi (left), founder of the Franciscan order. Both of these statues were also done by Schiemann.

To enjoy the beauty of the vertical stained glass windows, designed by Victor Vonderhorst and manu-

factured in Munster. Germany, walk down the center aisle toward the main altar. As you intersect with the aisle running north and south, you've encountered another architectural feature of the structure: the transcept. At either end of the transcept, is a large, glorious round "rose window." The one on the left (north) features a central series connected with the infancy of Christ. Moving clockwise from the top right are depictions of Mary with Jesus in the temple, Mary's cousin Elizabeth with the infant John the Baptist, Zachary, and the prophet Simeon. Beginning at the top and moving clockwise around the outer circle are Saints Charles Borromeo, Ignatius Loyola, Louis of France, Rita, Monica, and Agnes. The rose window to the right (south) seems less thematic. The inner four figures present Saints John the Baptist, Mary Magdalen, Stephen the Deacon-martyr, and Joseph the foster father of Jesus. Moving clockwise around the outer circle from the top are Saints Bonaventure, Augustine, Boniface, Clare, Patrick, and Thomas Aquinas.



hile you're facing the south walls, notice the three tall vertical windows, each identified at its top by the name of an Old Testament Prophet. At the far left, or southeast, the Zacharia window

shows Melchizedech, a priest of the Old Testament, offering bread and wine. The middle tall vertical *Daniel* window on the south wall reveals St. Ann with her daughter Mary at the Annunciation. On your far right, or southwest, the *Jeremiah* window displays the Nativity of Jesus. Above the choir loft in the rear of the church, the theme of music unifies this lovely rose window. An angel choir circles the outer edge, while St. Cecilia, the patron saint of music, David, the psalmist, and St. Gregory and St. Ambrose, revivalists of sacred music, were depicted after the fire by the Tyrolean Art Glass Company of Innsbruck, Austria.



t the west corner of the north wall is the *Isaiab* window, with Mary and Joseph fleeing with the Child to Egypt to avoid persecution. The *Ezekiel* window describes the baptism of Jesus by John the Baptist. The third window of *Habakkuk* presents a post-Resurrection scene which shows the risen Christ appearing with Cleopas and another disciple on the road to Emmaus.



ow turn toward the high altar, walk to the northeast corner of the transcept, and you'll find a shrine of St. Therese of Lisieux, the "Little Flower," who was canonized in 1925. Between St. Therese's

shrine and the high altar is the shrine of Mary the Blessed Mother. The high altar features a baldachino, a canopy, which shelters a crucifion group of the crucified Christ with Mary to his right and St. John to his left, sculpted by Joseph Sibbel. In the vault of the apse above the high altar, is a magnificent mural which replaced the one destroyed by the 1930 fire. Flanked by apostles are Christ with Mary and Joseph. Above Christ's head is the artist's representation of face of God. Kneeling in front of Mary and Joseph are St. Benedict and St. Francis, respectively. Below the mural are seven stained glass windows each representing a Sacrament of the Church: Baptism, Confirmation, Eucharist, Reconciliation, Anointing of the Sick, Holy Orders, and Matrimony.

The three pieces of wooden furniture in the sanctuary, the ambo (pulpit), the altar of celebration, and the presidential chair, were constructed from an old ornate pulpit in the renovations of 1989 by the Weberding Company of Batesville, Indiana. Between the altar of celebration and the high altar is the beautiful marble Baptismal font.

To the right of the sanctuary is the shrine of St. Joseph and the child Jesus. In the area of the southwest corner of the transcept, is the Blessed Sacrament Chapel which contains the tabernacle, a receptacle for the Eucharist. This Chapel provides a place for private prayer and reflection.



alk to the center aisle and stand several rows from the front for this last "stop" on your brief tour of St. Benedict's. Look above your head and you'll see where the dome was before the fire — as a matter of fact, you're probably standing very close to the spot where the three ton bronze statue of St. Michael the Archangel crashed through the floor into the basement. Around the dome are the names of the four evangelists: Matthew, Mark, Luke and John. Centered among those names is a cross which represents the source of life. Incidentally, if you're wondering how the church would have appeared with its dome intact, a near-copy of the original structure can be found in the church of The Immaculate Conception in Celina, Ohio. Their architects came to Terre Haute at the turn of the century with orders to replicate faithfully St. Benedict's design in that Ohio community.



hile your eyes were directed at the ceiling, did you notice the 16 painted "banners," each with its angel? Faith, Hope, and Charity are the more familiar theological virtues displayed; the remain-

ing 13 are among the gifts or fruits of the Holy Spirit which make us more sensitive to God and bring sweetness and joy to our hearts.



hat's the end of our "tour," but we know you've already noticed treasures that, in the interest of time and space, we've omitted. Stroll about. If you wish to sit in quiet meditation or kneel in prayer,

please do. We're delighted you could visit us.

St. Benedict's Parish began as Abraham Lincoln was completing his first term as President. It is fitting that this brochure end with a line from one of his speeches of 1864, the year of St. Benedict's founding:

"Bless all the churches, and blessed be God who giveth us the churches."

# 40 Years Ago

"A more beautiful day could scarcely have been made to order for the dedication of St. Benedict's church than Sunday. The sun shone brightly and it was not too hot. The thousands of strangers who were in Terre Haute to see the magnificent new structure found all the situations favorable for the event. As near as train records show nearly 7,000 visitors were brought here by the railroads, 5,226 going through the Union Station and 1,500 coming on the Big Four.

"The formal dedication of the church occurred from 7 until 9:30 o'clock, Bishop Jansen presiding, and none but the clergy being admitted to the scene. At 10 o'clock, after the clergy had made a circuit of the edifice, reciting the prayers for the occasion, the doors were opened and the public admitted.

"To the great bulk of the audience this was the first sight of the magnificent interior and many exclamations of delight were heard after their eyes began to take in the majestic beauty of the surroundings. The church was crowded to its capacity in a short time and arriving thousands found it impos-

sible to gain entrance.

"The dedication mass began soon after 10 o'clock. Bishop Jansen officiated at the mass with Very Rev. Vicer General Shideler of Indianapolis as assistant priest. Deacons of honor were Fr. Edward Faller of New Albany and Fr. Francis of Indianapolis. Deacon of the mass was Fr. J. H. Oechtering of Fort Wayne with Fr. Anthony Gehring of Terre Haute as subdeacon. Fr. O'Connell of St. Mary's was master of ceremonies with Fr. J. Maroney of Marshall as assistant.

"Rt. Rev. Athanasius Schmitt, abbot of St. Melnrad's Benedictine abbey, who assisted in the mass, had for his assistants Fr. Benedict of St. Meinard's and Fr. Schnell of St. Patrick's. Very Rev. Fr. Shelton, provincial of the Order of Minor Conventuals, was assisted by Fr. Leo of Louisville and Fr. Francis Lehner of Terre Haute.

"In the sanctuary were Frs. Liessen of St. Ann's Orphan Asylum, Terre Haute; Szabo of Terre Haute; Koenne of Logansport, Riehle of St. Mary's, Hugolinus, provincial of St. Joseph's College, Teutopolis, Ill., and Chartrand of Sts. Peter and Paul church, Indianapolis.

"The organist was Miss Nellie Chase of Louisville, Ky., daughter of Prof. Chase, organist of the Church of the Assumption in that city. She performed the great organ very acceptably. To Louisville singers, who came ic assist St. Benedict's choir, were Mrs. Ida Nosky, alto; Mrs. Lillie Cooper soprano; Phillip Hubbich, Garant Prof. Nashto'l, tenors, and John and Andrew Hodapp basses.

"The principal soloists were Mrs. Ida osky of Louisville and Miss Rosl n Fehrenbach of this city. Miss Fehrenbach's solos were greatly admired both at the mass of a trespers. She left after respers for Chicago where she was graduated on Monday from her musical college.

"St. Benedict's choir acquitted itself most creditably and its selections, under the leadership of Prof. Breinig, were much enjoyed. Members of the choir were:

"Sopranos — Misses Mary and Adelia Orth, Lizzie and Mayme Kennedy, Clara Hirt, Fanny Arleth, Lillie Schulmeyer and Mrs, John Connelly,

"Altos-Misses Rose and Theresa Frisz. Emaline Kenes, Tillie Hirt and Mary Woerner.

"Tenors—Charles Miller, Joe Kirchner, John Unison, Peter Doerner, Matthew Feller and Leo Statz.

"Basses-Joseph P. Frisz, George Klug, Joseph Schultz, Frank Fehrenbach and Charles Geisert.

"Recently added to the choir were these singers under the name 'Junior 'Choir': Sopranos, Misses Tillie Hepner, Helen Seng, Margaret Feiler. Clara Oeser, Ann Niemeyer, Sophia Frisz and Mary Miller; altos, Misses Imha Steigeibauer, Rose Breitfelder, Mary Dewolf, Otilia Marion, Grace Kennedy, Anna Kirchner, Amelia Miller, Walbruger Klug, Bertha Orth and Sophia Bleemel.

"The first step towards the new building was taken at a meeting held on Dec. 3, 1895, when Herman Hulman. Frank Prox, John F. Brinkman. Joseph Frisz, Ernest Bleemel, John D. Dommerhausen, Anton Haring and August Fuchs, all members of the congregation, and Fr. Peter W. Scharoun, the member, met at the rectory to form building committee. Mr. Hulman was chosen chairman and Fr. Scharons and Fr. Sch

Churches (WV) St. Benedicts

"Members of this committee visited other churches and on March 24, 1895, it was reported that St.

George's, in Chicago, pleased them the most. The architect of that church, A. Druiding, of Chicago, was awarded the task of making plans. His plans were accepted April 14, 1896, bids were advertised for and a subscription fund opened.

opened.
"April 27, 1896, the work of tearing down the old church building was begun. The furniture and organ were removed to the school hall. June 25 the contract for the building was let to P. H. McConnell & Co., of Columbus, Ind., and on July 21 the firm begun work, Father Scharoun turning the first shovelful of earth for the foundation excavation. The cornerstone was laid Oct. 4, 1896, 32 years after the corner stone of the first St. Benedict's church was laid with appropriate ceremonies and in the presence of a large crowd of clergy and members of the congregation.

"St. Benedict's German Catholic church in Terre Haute was organized June 17, 1864. Up to that time the congregation worshiped at St. Joseph's church on South Fifth street which, at that time, was in charge of the Benedictine fathers. Thirteen men responded to a call

for a meeting issued by Fr. Martin Marty, O. S. B. The result of this meeting was the purchase of ground at Ninth and Ohio streets and the erection of the old St. Benedict's church.

"The first pastor was F. Caspar Doebhenes and his successors have been: Frs. Edward. Faller. N. Gaellwertin, Pius Kotterer. Conrad Ellison, Fideli M. Voight, Clemens Loutz, Mauritius Bierl, A. Szabo, Benedictine Zoller, Leonard Rauch. Peter W. Scharoun, under whose auspices the new church was built, and Fr. Benedictine Zoller, who took charge in April last and now is pastor for the second time."

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7 12/12/96

ST. BENEDICT'S CHURCH.

There is now in progress of construction at the corner of Ninth and Ohio streets a building that will be the most expensive church edifice in the city and one of the fluest of the entire stale.

one of the finest of the entire state.

The last mass in the historic old church building of St. Benedict's congregation was celebrated by Rev. Father Scharoun on Tuesday morning, April 21st. The work of removing the old church was at once begun by Contractor M. Kennedy and then the construction of the new edifice was commenced.

Before deciding on the plans for the church Messrs. Joseph Frisz. A Herring and H. Hulman, of the building committee, visited Chicago and Quincy, Ill., to obtain ideas for the new church and Mr. Hulman while in Ohio visited the fine church buildings at Cleveland. At Chicago the committee was much impressed with St. George's church on Thirtyninth street, which was erected at a cost of \$60.000, and also with another church oh the north side that cost \$150,000. They learned that A. Druiding, of Chicago, had drawn the plans for both of these edifices and after meeting him decided

Although the church in Chicago from which the general outline was copied is Gothic in style the details have been changed so that St. Benedict's will be of the Romanesone style of architecture. The general outline as well as the details embody the most improved ideas and will form a most pleasing and imposing ppearance.

to employ Mr. Drulding as the architect

for St. Benedict's.

The new huilding has a frontage of 80 feet on Ninth street, which it faces. The building will be in the shape of a cross, being 116 feet in width in the rear. The setting apparity will be about 1000. The

building is to be one of most imposing appearance there being two tower corners and a magnificent dome a little back of the center of the edifice, the tower surmounting which will be one hundred and seventy-five feet in height.

When complete the total cost of the edifice will not be far from \$100,000.

An auspicious day in Terre Haute was Sunday, October, 4th, when the beautiful corner stone was laid with imposing ceremonies presided over by Bishop Chatard.

Finkbiner & Duenweg have recently received a contract, amounting to in the neighborhood of \$10,000, for the flooring and wainscoting of the new edifice. The work will be done in mosaic tiling, of very fine quality, manufactured at Zanesville, Ohio. It is made by a patent process and is not so slick as the other kinds of tiling. The flooring of the church alone will cost \$5,000.

The plans for the decorations of the altar have not yet been drawn, but they will be the finest and most beautiful in this part of the country. The large windows are to be of imported stained glass.

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Community Affairs File

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TERRE HAUTE, INDIANA

# St. Benedict's Centennial Set At Terre Haute

15

Star State Report

Terre Haute, Ind.—The Most Rev. Paul C. Schulte, archbishop of the Indianapolis Archdiocese, will preside today at ceremonies celebrating the 100th anniversary of St. Benedict's Catholic Church here.

Celebrating the 11 a.m. Centennial Mass will be the Most Rev. Basil M. Heiser, a native of Terre Haute who is Minister General of the Order of Friars Minor Conventual in Rome.

A reunion will follow at 2 p.m. for present and former members of the parish.

The second Catholic parish in Terre Haute, the church has been on Ninth Street between Walnut and Ohio streets since it was first entrusted to the Bendictine Fathers of St. Meinrad Arch Abbey 100 years ago.

The church now has a membership of 872, with 160 children attending the parish school. The Rev. Benedict Rubeck is pastor.

IGO COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY TERRE HAUTE, INDIANA

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EUCHARISTIC CELEBRATION April 29, 1990, 11:00 a.m. Some significant dates in the history of St. Benedict parish

- Oct. 1864 dedication of cornerstone of original building, facing Ohio Street
  - 1872 Franciscan priests succeeded the Benedictine pastors
  - 1895 approval of plans for larger structure designed by Adolph Druiding
  - 1896 cornerstone of present structure laid
  - 1899 solemn blessing and dedication ceremonies
- July 1930 fire demolished the interior
- Dec. 1931 restored church again usable
- 1988-1989 redecoration of church interior

For a fuller development of the history and design features, enjoy at your leisure the tan brochure with its self-guided tour prepared by Mr. Jim Backes for this 125th Anniversary Year.

# THE PEOPLE OF ST. BENEDICT PARISH REJOICE IN CELEBRATING OUR 125TH ANNIVERSARY

PRESIDER and HOMILIST:

Rev. Wayne Hellmann, OFMConv.

PRINCIPLE CONCELEBRANT:

Rev. Kent Biergans, OFMConv.

DEACON:

Friar Robert Showers, OFMConv.

LECTOR:

Mark Johnson

COMMENTATOR:

Fran Burget

SONG LEADER:

Marja Lee Backes

GREETERS:

Rick Mascari Bill Latta Joe Prox Charles Kintz

SERVERS:

Tonya Hay Chad Willett

EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS:

Jack McGill Kay McGill Linda Whalen Ruth Scheidler

BANNERS:

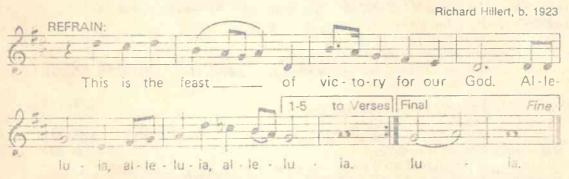
Lucille Dosch
Rick & Gina Mascari family
Charles Poths
Eric Swander

# GATHERING RITES

#### PRELUDES:

#### ENTRANCE OF MINISTERS:

### FESTIVAL CANTICLE: WORTHY IS CHRIST



- Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of
- Power, riches, wisdom, and strength, and honor, blessing, and glory are his.
- Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation.
- 4. Blessing, honor, glory, and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.
- 5. For the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign. Alleluia.

Text: based on Rev 5. Text and music @ 1975, Richard Hillert. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

# MASS OF CREATION



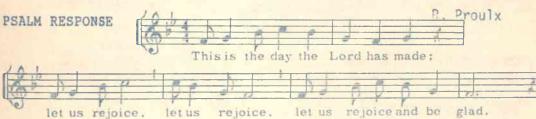
- Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.
   Refrain
- 2. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
  Lord God. Lamb of God,
  you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us;
  you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
  receive our prayer.

  Refrain
- 3. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of the Father. Amen! Amen! Refrain



# LITURGY of the WORD

FIRST READING: Acts 2:14, 22-28



- 1. Give thanks to the Lord who is good, whose love endures forever, let the house of Israel say: God's love endures forever.
- 2. The stone which the builders rejected has become the corner-This is the work of the Lord, a marvel in our eyes. REFRAIN

SECOND READING: I Peter 1:17-21

#### SILENCE



GOSPEL: Luke 24:13-35

HOMILY

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

# LITURGY of the EUCHARIST

Now Thank We All Our God . . . Cruger-Bach
HAND BELL CHOIR
ORGAN

PRESENTATION OF GIFTS:

Mary Cochran Pat Compton

EUCHARISTIC PRAYER





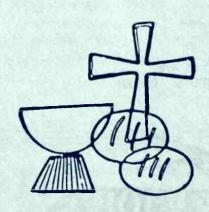
Please remain standing during the Eucharistic Prayer.

# MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION



A

men,



men,

men!

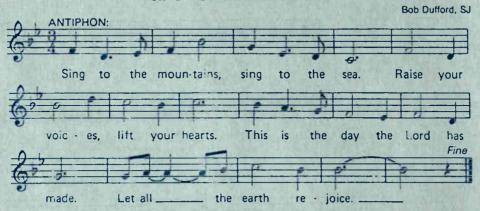
A

Lamb of God . (all repeat after cantor)

Peloquin

Communion Song of the Assembly

#### SING TO THE MOUNTAINS



I will give thanks to you, my Lord. You have answered my plea. You have saved my soul from death.
You are my strength and my song. REFRAIN

This is the day that the Lord has made. Let us be glad and rejoice. God has turned all death to life.
Sing to the Glory of God. REFRAIN

O Sacrum Convivium

Remondi

I Know That My Redeemer Lives . CHOIR, ORGAN

Hopson



# ALL PEOPLE THAT ON EARTH DO DWELL

L.M. Based on Psalm 100 Vss. 1-4: William Kethe, c. 1530-1608, alt. Vs. 5: Thomas Ken, 1637-1711, alt. OLD HUNDREDTH Louis Bourgeois, c. 1510-1561 arr. R.Vaughn Williams



choir: 1. All people that on earth do dwell, Sing ALL: 2. Praise God from whom all blessings flow, Praise 3. We come to you with songs of praise, Give

choir: 4. To God our praise we now ad- dress, You.



- 1. to the Lord with cheerful voice; Be
- 2. God all creatures here be- low. Praise
- 3. thanks to you and bless your name. You
- 4. whom the heaven and earth a- dore, You,



4. Source and Son and Spi - rit blest, To



- 1. high your spirits and re- joice.
- 2. Father, Son, and Ho-ly Ghost.
- 3. day and ever still the same.
- 4. you be glory ev- er-more.

A - men!

desplicate in archives

#### SOPRANOS

Marja Lee Backes Eun Hee Kim Mary Alice Klueh Cathy Williams Jeanne Tienken Mary Thompson

#### ALTOS

Marilyn Allen
Judy Cox
Lynn Kellett
Julie Knight
Pat Currie
Penny Schafer

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John Bloxdorf
Karl Knight
Jim Backes
Jonathan Ilagan
Paul Maierle
Hube Scheidler
Jon Williams

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ORGANIST: Rob Hayden

MUSIC DIRECTOR: Sr. Carol Brouillette CSJ



# HAND BELL CHOIR:

Kay Anderson Lowell Anderson Walt Anslinger Denise Berg Jane Berg

Amy Hoffman Susan Hoffman Chris Maierle Jane Patterson Stacy Patterson

Carol Sullivan

MASS OF CREATION

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